

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

## China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. XLVI.]

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, 30TH DECEMBER, 1897.

No. 27.

### CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c. ....	497
Leading Articles:—	
The Situation .....	498
The Times on the German Occupation of Kiaochau .....	498
Russia's Demand for the Dismissal for English Engineers .....	498
French Aggressiveness and the Situation in China .....	499
Marine Garrisons for the Coaling Stations .....	499
The Attack on Haiphong .....	500
Bribery and its Punishment .....	500
The Harbour Master and the Light Dues .....	500
Movements of Russia and England in China .....	501
The Philippine Rebellion .....	501
The Rectification of Hongkong's Boundaries .....	501
Supreme Court .....	501
Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce .....	501
Two Great Men .....	502
Farewell Concert by the West Yorks Band .....	502
Fire at the Naval Yard .....	503
The Bribery Punishment Ordinance .....	503
Special Licensing Session .....	503
Oxford Local Examinations .....	503
Masonic Installations .....	503
The Hongkong High-Level Tramways Co., Limited .....	504
The Punjium Mining Co., Limited .....	504
Cricket .....	504
Yacht Race .....	505
Royal Hongkong Yacht Club .....	505
The Royal Hongkong Golf Club .....	505
Shooting Match .....	506
Royal Artillery Athletic Sports .....	506
The Piratical Attack on Haiphong .....	506
News From Kiaochau Bay .....	506
The Amoy Incident .....	507
Shocking Suicide at Shanghai .....	507
The Round-the-World Cyclists .....	507
The Russification of Korea .....	507
Hongkong and Port News .....	508
Commercial .....	509
Shipping .....	511

### DEATHS.

At the University College Hospital, London, on the 22nd November, 1897, ETHEL WORSLEY, dearly loved daughter of Captain and Mrs. CLEMENT. Aged 22 years and 10 months. Deeply regretted.

On the 11th December, 1897, LEONORA T. GRACEY, the wife of Samuel L. GRACEY, United States Consul at Foochow, China.

On the 16th inst., at the General Hospital, Yokohama, of typhoid fever, HENRY SWINBURNE ADAMS, in his 36th year.

### ARRIVALS OF MAIL.

The French mail of the 19th November arrived, per M. M. steamer *Laos*, on the 22nd December (33 days); and the English mail of the 26th November arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Thames*, on the 26th December (30 days); the American mail of the 27th November arrived, per P. M. Steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, on the 28th December (31 days); and the Canadian mail of the 7th December arrived, per C. P. steamer *Empress of China*, on the 28th December (21 days).

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment arrived at Hongkong by the troopship *Jelunga* on the 26th December to replace the West Yorks, who embark on the 1st January for Singapore.

From Shanghai papers we learn that in obedience to telegraphic instructions received from the Tsungli Yamen, the embargo laid by the Chinese authorities on the steamers chartered by Messrs. Bennertz & Co. was removed on the 21st December.

Dr. Bedloe, the new Consul for the United States at Canton, arrived by the *City of Rio de Janeiro* on the 28th December.

According to the *Mercury*, telegraphic news has been received at Shanghai stating that Russia took over charge of the Korean Customs on the 21st December.

Information has reached Singapore that the American ship *Conqueror*, which left Singapore on the 19th December bound to Boston, has become a total wreck in the Rho Straits.

On the 24th December three Chinamen were sentenced to death in the Hongkong Supreme Court for a murder committed in connection with the gang robbery in Burd Street.

Sir William Maxwell, Governor of the Gold Coast, died at sea off Grand Canary on his way home to England. Recent advices stated that he was in ill health, so that it is probable he was going home on sick leave.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 20th December says:—There are many rumours afloat as to the intentions of the British Admiral at the present crisis. It is reported that the Chusan Islands are to be occupied again, while others have it that the Woosung forts are to be held until the political atmosphere clears. It seems certain that, whatever happens, the British Government will allow no outside interference with the Yangtze Valley.

In an interview at Hankow with a correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* Mr. Fraser, one of the round-the-world cyclists, said:—It is appalling what ignorance there is about our trade in foreign parts. And a mighty amount of nonsense has been written about tapping Western China into Burma. Well, I have studied the question and I examined Yunnan pretty carefully as I came along. Yunnan isn't worth tapping, and, if it were, railways are nigh impossible. Anyway I've written a very heavy and a very dull article on the subject which you may read by and bye.

According to the *Sinwén-pao's* Peking correspondent the German indemnity demanded is really six million instead of two million taels as hitherto reported, and that as the German Minister refused to go to the Tsungli Yamen to arrange about the German conditions, Weng Tung-ho and Chang Yin-huan were compelled to go themselves to the German Legation, whither they had been several times in deep and secret consultation with the German Minister. No one except those immediately concerned was allowed within the room where these officials met, even the subordinate officers of the Legation being prohibited from coming anywhere near the place.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The N.Y.K. steamer *Kinshiu-maru* (Captain Sommers), which sailed from Kobe on the 11th inst. for Yokohama and Seattle, was run into by the steamer *Hokushin-maru* at 6.35 p.m. on the 12th when off Matsuba-Saki, Sagami Province. The former was struck on the port bow, and sustained injury, but was able to proceed on her voyage, and anchored off Yokohama harbour at 9 p.m. the same night. As the part adjacent to the rent in her hull was empty at the time of collision, cargo taken in at Hongkong, Shanghai, and Kobe may be said to have practically escaped damage. The repairs to the vessel will require at least a month, and it was arranged to tranship her cargo into the *Matsuyama-maru*, which was to leave Yokohama on the 18th inst. for Seattle.

Important developments are taking place in China. It is recognised that Germany intends to retain possession of Kiaochau. Russia, as a countermove, has occupied Port Arthur, apparently with the consent of the Chinese Government, and the forts are to be reconstructed under Russian supervision and with Russian money. That Russia intends to establish a virtual protectorate over Manchuria and a large slice of North China is indicated by the fact that she has demanded the dismissal of the English engineers on the railway. Russian military instructors are also to replace the Germans. The British fleet is assembled at Chusan and it is believed that island and its dependencies are to be occupied. In any event Great Britain will tolerate no interference inimical to her interests in Central China, and more especially along the Yangtze Valley. France, it is stated, will remain impassive unless some foreign aggression takes place in Southern China. Meantime she is reinforcing her squadron in the Far East, the cruisers *Jeanne D'Arc* and *Pascal* being already on the way out.

Saigon was en fête from the 5th December to the 12th December the occasion being the visit of the Emperor of Annam and the King of Cambodia. The *Courrier de Saïgon* gave a long account of the festivities, which were on a very large scale. The distinguished visitors were received with the greatest enthusiasm wherever they went, the crowds in the streets being at all times very large indeed. The first class cruiser *Lutin* was placed at the disposal of the King of Cambodia and from a description given of the interior of the boat the arrangements were evidently of a most luxurious description. Magnificent ornaments adorned the saloon, while the smoking room, which was converted into a dressing room for the occasion, was transformed into a strikingly handsome apartment. The toilet set was of massive gold, the combs and brushes were of gold and set with emeralds, diamonds, and rubies of the choicest workmanship. Even His Majesty's walking sticks were adorned with precious stones, while in various parts of the room were rare pieces of gold and silver, his jewellery particularly being very extensive and costly.

The *Straits Times* of the 18th December says:—Yesterday's *Government Gazette* contains fiat of banishment against no fewer than twenty-three habitual criminals. This is the first batch of criminals to be deported under the new system that, as we announced a week ago, the Government were about to adopt. In future, these pests of society will not be allowed to remain in the colony to prey on the public, to fill our prisons, and to add to the public expenditure. The Police will keep a "little list" of the bad characters in our midst, and, when they have attained to a certain stage of criminality, to be computed, of course, by the number and kind of convictions, they will be packed off to China as their sentences expire. It is an admirable measure that the Government has taken. The only wonder is that it was not taken long ago. Let the colony be free, but free only to the honest and industrious. We have been preyed upon too long by these criminal immigrants from "the Flowery Land." It would be idle to affect compunction at the fact that, when these criminals are landed in China, the "happy despatch" very frequently awaits them.

## THE SITUATION.

(23rd December.)

The situation in North China grows hourly more exciting. Germany having obtained her demands, settles down to occupy Kiaochau with a view to the ultimate administration of Shantung. Russia, having disavowed the Cassini Convention, and thus lost any *locus standi* from which to protest against this move, has suddenly made a counter move and taken Port Arthur. The question remains, what is Great Britain now to do? It was reported that the British Squadron had, as a counter move, occupied Talienwan Bay. This rumour is, we trust, entirely unfounded. It could hardly fail to bring about unpleasant complications and might even precipitate a war. At the same time it is quite impossible for Great Britain to look on impassively while changes of such a startling character, affecting the distribution of naval power in the East, are being effected. The British Government has always shown the greatest reluctance to acquire territory in China, or to assume new or increased responsibilities east of India. At the same time they cannot afford to remain indifferent to the shifting of the balance of power, because British trade in the Far East is preponderant, and they must protect and conserve that trade. What then is to be done? Are we to say to Russia, "Come further south at your peril?" We think not. China by the misgovernment of her officials has become an unwieldy carcass, unable to either take care of her own interests or to carry out the treaties which she has signed with the Powers. The time has arrived, therefore, when Great Britain, despite her reluctance, must assume fresh responsibilities, or drop behind in the race. She must, following the advice of the *Times*, ask for the restoration to her of the Chusan Islands, as it is clearly evident that the Peking Government are no longer to be relied upon to carry out the Treaty of the Bogue of 1846. For the safety of the colony of Hongkong, she must also demand the cession of whatever number of acres of barren hills in the hinterland of Kowloon and of the rocky islets to the south of Hongkong may be necessary to render the colony safer from outside attack. She ought also to insist upon full power to construct and work railways in Kwangtung, including a line to Wuchang on the Yangtze; also to exploit and work in conjunction with natives the mineral resources of the Two Kwang and possibly the adjoining provinces. These privileges secured and British capital invested largely in Southern China, we should have given hostages to fortune, but at the same time we should have commenced the opening up of this great country in earnest. The mass of the population would thankfully welcome the advent of foreign capital and joyfully see the rule of the mandarin abolished. It is hopeless to look for any reform for China from within; it can only come from without. And it would be folly and worse than folly for Great Britain to hesitate to take up her share of the task.

Dr. Rennie, on returning from a shooting trip up the West River a few days ago, learnt at Canton that the launch which had towed his boat up the river had been pirated on her way back, the coxswain and another member of the crew being murdered. The doctor had paid the launchman \$45 for his services and it was to secure possession of this money that the crime was committed. Some well dressed Chinamen hailed the launch and bargained for a passage by her. Having got on board they declared themselves in their true character, produced revolvers, and pirated the craft.

## THE "TIMES" ON THE GERMAN OCCUPATION OF KIAOCHAU.

The *Times* is to be congratulated on the soundness of its views with reference to the German occupation of Kiaochau, and on the application it makes of the incident in a consideration of our own policy in China. Instead of wasting time in making remonstrances at Peking, which would assuredly have been met as usual by the innumerable dilatory devices of Chinese diplomacy, the Germans landed a force in Kiaochau Bay. The experiment, says the *Times*, is one which we ourselves have tried on one or two occasions, with results so excellent as compared with any obtainable by diplomatic negotiation at Peking—that there is reason to wonder why we do not always follow the more effectual method. After showing how anti-foreign outrages are fomented by the literary or official class, the article proceeds:—"Consequently it is the local officials whom we ought always to hold responsible alike for actual outrage and for the gross infringement of treaty rights which goes on continuously and persistently. There is very little use in applying to the central Government to enforce responsibility. It has comparatively little control of the local Governors, and that little it certainly will not waste on behalf of mere barbarians when its own demands call for all its efforts." Referring to commercial difficulties also the *Times* says:—"The truth is that the central Government has not the power, even if it had the will, to make its promises effectual. The proceeds of the taxes which throttle British trade do not go to Peking, and the officials in each province simply go upon the principle of taking all they can get. It is to these gentlemen that we must apply, with arguments that they can appreciate. Among those arguments gunboats occupy an important place."

While the existing decentralised system of government exists it is obviously at the seat of grievance that redress must be sought if anything substantial is to be accomplished. But, in view of recent events, the question suggests itself whether the system of decentralisation can endure much longer. Will not the Central Government be compelled by considerations of simple self-preservation to make its authority effective in the remotest corner of the remotest province and to effect such a reform in the administration as will knit the Empire together and make each portion contribute to the strength of the whole, instead of allowing the different provincial Governments such latitude as to endanger the whole State whenever a hot-headed official or local magnate takes it into his head to foment anti-foreign disturbances? If the present system continues the Empire must fall to pieces from simple want of cohesion. While there was little outside pressure the slender ties between the provinces sufficed to hold them together, but they cannot suffice much longer unless they be strengthened by a general reform of the administration, the abolition of the squeeze system, and the centralisation of authority. In any other country reform might be anticipated, but in China it seems almost hopeless, and in view of impending changes, which will be none the less important if they are effected gradually instead of suddenly, it behoves the British Government to strengthen its position and be prepared for all emergencies that may threaten our commercial interests. The *Times* says it took the Foreign Office a very long time to understand that China is not a highly-

organised State after the European model and expresses a doubt whether the misconception does not still linger in official minds. Dr. DILLON, in a recent article in the *Contemporary*, referring to the course of events in the Far East, also says "our Foreign Office was meanwhile occupied, like the God Baal when invoked by his worshippers, 'in talking, or pursuing, or in a journey,'"—an expression which very accurately hits off the attitude maintained until recently by our officials, and especially by the Legation at Peking. It would appear that there has recently been an awakening. Let us hope that drowsiness and obliviousness to passing events may not again set in.

## RUSSIA'S DEMAND FOR THE DISMISSAL OF ENGLISH ENGINEERS.

The Russian demand for the dismissal of all Englishmen connected with the Chinese railways is a piece of impertinence which we trust Lord SALISBURY will meet as it deserves. Up to the present England has neither claimed nor received any exclusive advantages in China, though she has had abundant opportunities of doing so had she been so disposed. It was on her that the task of establishing foreign intercourse with China devolved, but in so far as the country was opened up by her efforts it was opened to the world at large and not to British subjects exclusively. In return for this liberal policy we now find that attempts are being made to discriminate against her and to oust British subjects from all their positions in the Chinese public service, a step which, if allowed to pass, would in course of time be followed by attempts to exclude British trade by differential tariffs. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the Government will take up a firm stand at once and effectually resist the attacks now being made on British prestige and influence. In retaliation for Russia's attempt to oust British subjects Great Britain might demand, say, the dismissal of all Russian subjects from the Customs Service; but we do not suppose that is exactly the course that will commend itself to Lord SALISBURY. The same telegram that informs us of Russia's demand for the dismissal of English engineers informs us also that the German military instructors in the Chinese service are to be replaced by Russians, a matter in which Germany will probably have something to say. We can hardly suppose that Russia thinks she will be allowed to take the government of China entirely into her own hands or to eliminate from the administration all influence and advice but her own. Her recent demands may therefore be regarded perhaps as an attempt to force on a demarcation of the particular spheres of influence of the respective Powers, and on that ground Great Britain might well meet her. It is now clear that whether China be territorially partitioned or not she must in various directions be subject to foreign control, and as no one of the Powers can be allowed a monopoly of that control it becomes necessary that they should arrive at some understanding as to their respective rights. It may be a case of the European concert over again, which has not been conspicuously successful in Europe, but which seems to be better than having all the Powers working independently at cross-purposes. However that may be, no discrimination against Great Britain or British subjects can be allowed in China.

## FRENCH AGGRESSIVENESS AND THE SITUATION IN CHINA.

The statement wired out a few days ago by Reuter to the effect that France "will remain impassive unless some foreign aggression takes place in Southern China" is certainly interesting. It is quite a new role for France to adopt—the protector of China against foreign aggression. It is true that this championship extends only to South China, but the idea of France denouncing aggression is about on a par with Satan reproving Sin. To be quite fair to our Gallic friends, however, it must be said that they do not reprobate aggression altogether; they are prepared to extend a smug approval to the unblushing acts of their dear ally in the far North, and are ready even to wink at the somewhat high handed proceedings of their hereditary foe—so long as he maintains a respectful distance from their preserves. What is intended, presumably, by this pronouncement as to foreign aggression in South China is that the French Republic will not permit any acquisition of territory in South China by any Power but herself. She hankers after Yunnan and has covetous longings for Hainan, which longings she hopes, with the assistance of the Czar, to presently satisfy, when the Russian appetite for territory has been temporarily sated. Meantime France wishes to pose as a foe to aggression, and in that capacity will not fail to snarl (like the dog in the manger) at all and sundry who may feel desirous of conserving their commercial interests in China by the acquisition of some foothold on her shores. France is perfectly welcome, no doubt, to play this interesting rôle. It will impose on nobody. No civilised Power has so consistently shown an aggressive policy during the last two decades as France. Her Governments may change with the seasons, and are almost as fleeting, but the policy of aggrandisement animates every Cabinet, which, like its ephemeral successors, must play to the gallery and strive eternally, if vainly, to divert attention from festering corruption and slow decay at home by extending their possessions abroad.

So far the game has only been marked by failure. Every new colony acquired has proved a fresh source of expense, but the drain on the resources of a naturally rich and prosperous country has not yet become so serious as to bring about a fresh revolution, nor has the glamour of these acquisitions (often indeed endowed with great possibilities) yet begun to pall on the French nation. They have not yet realised that they cannot colonise; they still hope to build up in the Far East a second India. Some day the disillusionment will come; for the present Frenchmen are as sanguine as when NAPOLEON III. laid the foundation of this new empire in Cochin-China. While yearly protesting against the occupation of Egypt by a small army of British troops for the preservation of order and the accomplishment of necessary administrative reforms, France has annexed Annam and Tonkin, has established her domination in Tunis, has acquired sovereignty over the great island of Madagascar, and conquered vast regions of equatorial Africa. The lust for territory has been upon her in the most aggravated form, and grown with what it fed upon; yet oblivious of the beam in her own eye, she has sought with querulous solicitude to tear the mote out of her neighbour's. Strong in her own rectitude of purpose, England has calmly refused to be dictated to, and has remained in Egypt for Egypt's good as well as for her own. The French Press, enraged at this persistence, despatched a

critic to the banks of the Nile to expose to the world Anglo-Saxon iniquities; but, to the eternal honour of that high minded Frenchman, he, after examination on the spot, ended by belauding Anglo-Saxon rule, and for the moment silenced clamour. This clamour had not come well from a Power that, more than any other, had indulged in a policy of conquest abroad, not by force of circumstances, for the preservation of commercial interests, or from a desire to spread the benefit of a higher civilization in dark places. France has sadly neglected opportunities of seeing herself as others see her, and has even failed to profit to any extent by her easily won conquests.

The measure of France's aspirations after empire has not yet been attained. She cherishes, as we said before, designs on some of the provinces of China and regards Siam much as Ahab regarded NABORN's vineyard, and she has indefinite ideas of expansion in Africa. While steadily pursuing these plans for self-aggrandisement, she ceaselessly reviles her neighbours and recklessly imputes to them schemes which never existed except in the prolific imagination of Parisian journalists. Perhaps, on the whole, these vapourings have done little harm except to mislead and irritate a great and, in the mass, a sensible people. The policy of conquest has been a great and constant drain on the French exchequer, which has been borne without murmuring, but the French nation has never yet been led into any serious outcry against Great Britain, and has also kept under restraint its traditional longing for revenge on the victors in the war of 1870. Nor will the French nation even now be led away and unwittingly be involved in a calamitous war for an idea. But it is greatly to be deplored that, when people live in glass houses, they should be so ready to throw stones. For the most aggressive Power in Europe to talk about foreign aggression in South China is really too much. If the French Government think that Great Britain will thereby be deterred from taking such guarantees for the protection of her enormous commercial interests in the Far East as may to her appear needful in the present altered political situation—an alteration brought about by the action of France and Russia—then are they most woefully mistaken. England has never desired or sought for territory in China; had she done so, she would have utilised her opportunities. On the contrary, she voluntarily restored the Chusan Islands to the Chinese Emperor, and declined to accept Formosa when offered to her. Now, however, the position has altered, and she will probably demand to have Chusan handed into her keeping, since the Chinese Government is palpably incapable of carrying out its covenants and it is important that British interests in Central China should be permanently and satisfactorily safeguarded. If through the helpless incapacity and hopeless corruption of the Chinese Government the day has arrived when the eagles soaring above the flabby carcass shall decide to divide and rule, Great Britain cannot afford to stand aside. With interests in China far outweighing those of any three of the greatest Powers, she will not be content to see this great empire absorbed piecemeal by those who design to utilise the fragments for their own exclusive benefit. Most reluctantly therefore—for her cares of empire lie heavily on her broad shoulders—Great Britain may be forced to take part in a scramble for the dominions of the so-called Son of Heaven, just as she was obliged to

colour in red vast tracts on the map of Africa, which may be a valuable heritage to the Anglo-Saxon, but will nevertheless inevitably entail along with it serious troubles and responsibilities.

## MARINE GARRISONS FOR THE COALING STATIONS.

Mr. ST. JOHN BRODRICK, Parliamentary Secretary to the War Office, in a recent speech on Army reform and extension, said that possibly the Navy might garrison the coaling stations. The question of garrisoning the coaling stations with Marines has often been discussed, and Mr. BRODRICK's remark seems to indicate that the idea is making some headway. The matter is not one of very great interest from the civilian point of view, unless as regards the small saving to the home taxpayer's pocket that the change might effect. We in Hongkong would have to go on paying seventeen-and-a-half per cent. of our revenue as a military contribution, but the actual cost to the country of a garrison of Marines would probably be appreciably less than that of the present garrison, with its large and costly staff. The number of men required would of course be the same, but there would be a material reduction in the number of higher grade officers. Another and more important advantage from an Imperial point of view would be increased mobility. If Singapore, Hongkong, and Chusan were all under the charge of the Admiral he would in case of necessity be able to effect a redistribution of the shore forces more readily than could be done under the present system; and the health of the men might also be promoted by more frequent interchanges between the different stations with reference to climatic conditions. Useful employment with opportunities of promotion would also be provided for the officers of Marines, the want of which at present causes some trouble and a good deal of dissatisfaction. In a note on this subject in its last issue the *Naval and Military Record* says:—"The whole question of officering the Marines is a most difficult one, owing to the fact that more than half the men serve afloat, the actual number with the fleet being 118 officers and 9,240 rank and file, these officers consisting of twenty majors, forty-two captains, and fifty-one subalterns. Were this large body turned into a land unit it would have at least three general and three hundred other officers. The life of the Marine officer either ashore or afloat is far too easy, after the period of instruction in the Royal Naval College, the Staff College, the *Excellent*, the *Vernon*, the School of Musketry, &c., and beyond the application of this instruction in the training of the men at the barrack batteries it is absolutely useless, for on board ship the Marine officer is condemned to a life of irksome idleness. If we go on to the higher ranks we find the same kind of misfortune pursuing the Marines, for though that force contains 17,000 men only one general officer is employed, while the Royal Engineers, with a force of 8,000 men, give employment to twelve general officers. The Royal Artillery finds equal activity for the senior officers, while if 9,240 blue-jackets were in one squadron they would demand the attention of two Admirals; yet the senior Marine officer afloat is a Major. Taking the entire body of 17,000 Marines we find there are only five commanding officers—the commandants at the depot and head-quarters—and these have

"no more power than a Major commanding an isolated battery of artillery. It cannot reasonably be expected that the general officers of Marines should be passed on to the War Office, for that Department has its own general officers to provide for; but in the meantime the Admiralty would be studying the best interests of the service if they gave their attention to the question as to how to find suitable and adequate employment for the Marine officers serving afloat, by affording them opportunities of putting to some practical use the high education that they have received." What better employment could be found for them than the garrisoning of the coaling stations? There may be a good deal to be said in favour of leaving the present system undisturbed, but since the necessity of increasing and strengthening the army and holding it in readiness for service wherever and whenever required is making itself so strongly felt it does seem rather a waste of force to keep a number of regiments locked up in the coaling stations, if the duty of protecting those stations could be equally well discharged by the Marines. We may take it for granted—at least we hope so—that Chusan is about to be added to the list of coaling stations, and if so it is probable that the experiment of a garrison of Marines will be made there, in the first instance. The form the civil administration is to take will also be a question of some interest. Will Chusan be made a dependency of Hongkong or be endowed with a separate administration of its own? Will the future colonists be allowed to exercise some control over the municipal affairs of the island, or will they have to submit, as in Hongkong, to the dictation of officials? Will Shanghai be taken as a model for the municipal administration, or Hongkong? These are interesting questions, but it will perhaps be time enough to discuss them after the formal announcement of annexation has been made.

#### THE ATTACK ON HAIPHONG.

(23rd December.)

What the British in Burmah characterised as dacoity, and the French in Tonkin have regarded as piracy is, unfortunately for the latter, far from extinct in the provinces of Indo-China. We have for a long time been aware that outside the towns there was little security in Tonkin, and that the banditti were practically in possession of great tracts of country, but we were not prepared to hear of the daring attack made on the town of Haiphong on the 15th inst. It is certainly rather startling to hear of the port of Haiphong being suddenly invaded by several hundred bandits, who set fire to it in several places simultaneously. The horrible murder of Messrs. MARTY & D'ABBADIE's book-keeper, M. GAUTHIER, shows that the pirates were a savage and desperate band intent on plunder. No details are to hand, but it is probable that M. GAUTHIER offered resistance, and was at once cut down, when his ruffianly assailants proceeded with cowardly brutality to hack the remains to pieces. Presumably the pirates were at length driven out by the garrison, so soon as the latter were roused; but the mere fact that such an event could, without warning, take place in the peaceful port is a striking proof of the insecure condition of the country. The French have a considerable garrison in Tonkin, but not many white troops, and the native tirailleurs and militia are not of much ac-

count even in fighting the pirates. The French Infantry of Marine—the only regular soldiers employed in Tonkin—are split up into small detachments for the most part, and there is only a very small force in Haiphong, which is also without defences and open to a sudden attack from the river and from the creek, the numerous wharves giving a piratical expedition every facility for the purpose, while the road from Doson affords another convenient approach from the sea. The small garrison were of course totally unprepared for this surprise, which seems to have been of the most complete description. The numbers of the band and the daring nature of the attack would appear to indicate a re-erudescence of the Black Flag band, if indeed that body has ever been more than temporarily inactive. The French Authorities in Indo-China have so far failed to root out the evil of piracy, and to have merely touched the fringe of it. No Frenchman is safe five miles from the principal towns, and if any are sufficiently adventurous to attempt to explore the interior without a body guard they are almost sure to fall into the hands of bandits and be held to ransom. Now that these disturbers of the peace have invaded Haiphong and destroyed the cherished security of the townspeople it will be necessary for the Government to take some effective steps to safeguard the town. Owing to the peaceable disposition of the Tonkinese, the Police Force of both Hanoi and Haiphong has always been a nominal one compared with the establishment maintained in this city. It will be necessary in future to place guards at various points, and to institute a system of alarms whereby such attacks as the one made on the 15th inst. may be met in good time, for it is terribly disconcerting to be roused at midnight by incendiary fires and the rattle of fire-arms. Probably the design of the pirates or rebels—whichever they were—was to fire the town, loot the Government stores and offices, and do all the damage possible. Never, even in the time when China encouraged and armed the Black Flags to raid Tonkin, has so daring an attack been made on the French headquarters. It is high time for the French Military Authorities in Indo-China to concert steps to put down this robber organisation, and purge the land of such a disturbing element in the population.

#### BRIBERY AND ITS PUNISHMENT.

No opposition is likely to be offered to the Misdemeanors Punishment Ordinance, which was read for the first time at the meeting of the Legislative Council on Monday. On the contrary, everyone having the interests of the public service at heart will sincerely welcome the introduction of the measure, which of course is the outcome of the recent bribery scandal. At the present moment a criminal prosecution for bribery can be instituted only against police officers, and not against any other Government servants, but when the new Ordinance is passed it will be an offence for any servant of the Government, whether permanently or temporarily employed, to accept a bribe with a view to influence his conduct as such public servant, and on conviction he will be liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years and also to a fine of \$500. The offering of a bribe is also made a punishable offence. It was because of the absence of the power this Ordinance will give that certain public servants concerned in the scandal which lately revealed certain branches of

the service to be sunk in a bog of corruption were not criminally prosecuted. The man who brings the least stain on the public service deserves exemplary punishment. We expressed ourselves in similar terms when dealing with the gambling scandal, and we now rejoice that the Government will shortly possess a weapon which should act as a wholesome terrorizer to evil doers. We wish the weapon had been in use six months ago.

But while we hail this Ordinance with a considerable amount of satisfaction we must express our regret that nothing has yet been done to materially limit the extraordinary power vested in the Captain Superintendent of Police. Of course according to the Police Consolidation Ordinance it is the Governor who dismisses a police officer, but such dismissal is founded on the recommendation of the Captain Superintendent of Police, and it may be taken for granted that his recommendations for dismissal are invariably adopted by His Excellency. We doubt whether a single recommendation has ever been over-ruled by the Governor. In connection with the police bribery scandal Inspector WITCHELL was the only man criminally prosecuted, and he got his deserts. But what about the other men? Why were they not placed in the dock? The public cannot forget that during the WITCHELL trial the Attorney-General and Mr. J. J. FRANCIS, Q.C., stated that it could be proved that two officers, whose names were mentioned, received bribes. The fact that no prosecution was instituted against these two men, or against the others, goes to show that there was no proof against them at all. If there was proof, then the Hongkong Government failed in its duty in not criminally prosecuting them. All but one of the men who were discharged were told that they had simply failed to discover and report a gambling house, and for this, and this alone, they were dismissed with loss of pension. The case was disgracefully bungled from start to finish. If the men were guilty of receiving bribes they all ought to be in gaol now; if they were innocent they ought to have been reinstated in the Force; if there was simply a case of strong suspicion against them they might have been called upon to resign, but, in the absence of strict proof of guilt, it was unfair to punish them by loss of the pension they had earned by their past services. In any case they ought to have been tried by an impartial tribunal. The Captain Superintendent of Police, however, accused the men, obtained the evidence, tried them, found them guilty of neglect, and recommended their dismissal. In England any charge against a constable would be investigated by the Judicial Sub-Committee of the Watch Committee, and not by the Chief Constable, and we contend that the power at present possessed by the Captain Superintendent of Police is far too great and ought to be considerably curtailed.

#### THE HARBOUR MASTER AND THE LIGHT DUES.

The Harbour Master apparently found the proposing of the formal resolution reducing the light dues, at the Council meeting on Monday, an unpleasant task. What he had to say was not in favour of the resolution, but directly against it. Under the circumstances it would perhaps have been more dignified to have said nothing at all; for there is little but ridicule to be gained by making wry faces over a bitter pill that has to be swallowed. Captain RUMSEY, however, could not let pass the

opportunity of attempting to show that the advocates of a reduction of the light dues had been guilty of misrepresentation. Now that the matter is settled it is not worth while fighting the battle over again, or splitting straws over details, though Captain Rumsey has left himself invitingly open to attack. His statement, for instance, that 5,700,000 tons at one cent a ton would not yield \$57,000 is a mistake that a schoolboy would detect. If a portion of the tonnage is exempted, or a rebate allowed on another portion, the total yield must of course be proportionately reduced, which is perhaps what the hon. gentleman meant to say; but at one cent a ton all round 5,700,000 tons could not yield less than \$57,000. Leaving all quibbles aside, however, there is one remark in Captain Rumsey's speech that throws a flood of light on the inner workings of the official mind. Borrowing a phrase which he said had become almost a sort of catchword among a certain section of the community, namely, that the shipping is the life blood of this colony, he submitted that "what is chiefly remarkable is the miserably feeble amount of sustenance which the colony will derive from its life blood." That is to say, though the shipping is the basis of the trade of the colony and that from which the bulk of the community draw directly or indirectly their incomes, unless it contributes by taxation to the support of an over-manned and under-worked army of officials the colony derives a miserably feeble amount of sustenance from it! In other words, the officials constitute the colony.

#### MOVEMENTS OF RUSSIA AND ENGLAND IN CHINA.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAMS TO THE "DAILY PRESS"]

Shanghai, 21st December.

It is reported that Port Arthur has been occupied by Russia, and the report is believed to be correct.

A report that Talienwan has been occupied by Great Britain is regarded as uncertain.

H.M.S. *Pique* left Woosung this morning with sealed orders. It is understood she goes to join the Admiral.

SHANGHAI, 22nd December.

The Chinese officials report that the Russian flag has been hoisted at Port Arthur.

It is reported that the British Fleet are to rendezvous at Chusan.

Shanghai, 28th December.

Definite news has been received here that the British fleet is at Chusan.

#### THE PHILIPPINE REBELLION.

##### SURRENDER OF THE LEADERS.

Senor José de Navarro, Consul for Spain, informs us that he has received the following telegram from the Governor-General of the Philippines:—

I inform your Excellency with great satisfaction that the principal leaders of the insurrection have laid down their arms, with cries of "Long live Spain, long live the King and peace."

#### THE RECTIFICATION OF HONGKONG'S BOUNDARIES.

REPORT THAT AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN ARRIVED AT.

The following telegram, dated London, 1st December, appears in the *Vancouver News-Advertiser*:—

"The morning papers assert that China has agreed to cede to England a strip of territory near Hongkong, and all the surrounding islands, in order to enable England to fortify them securely, and to increase the garrison. It is expected that a convention covering the agreement will soon be signed."

Nothing is officially known in Hongkong of any such agreement having been arrived at, or if there is knowledge it is treated as confidential. We hope the report is true, but fear that it is, to say the least, premature.

#### SUPREME COURT.

24th December.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON  
(CHIEF JUSTICE).

##### THE BURD STREET ROBBERY AND MURDER.

The hearing was resumed of the case in which Iu Meng, Wong Cheung, Wong Shek ki, and Wan Sun were charged with the murder of a man in Burd Street on the 26th November.

Hon. W. M. Goodman (Attorney-General), instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys (Crown Solicitor), appeared for the prosecution. Mr. E. Robinson defended the first, second, and fourth prisoners, and Mr. H. E. Pollock defended the third prisoner.

The jurors were—Messrs. L. Snidter, J. McKie, J. Lysaught, A. H. M. da Silva, A. G. Gubbay, F. A. de Carvalho, and W. H. Day.

The case began on Monday last and the evidence was not concluded until yesterday morning. Counsel for the prisoners addressed the jury and laid particular stress on what they suggested was weak evidence of identification. Mr. Robinson, in regard to one of the witnesses who said he identified the prisoner, said that this witness was a criminal himself and the head of a gang. Three of the prisoners were placed in a row with twelve lukongs for the purpose of identification. The prisoners were ill fed, unwashed, unshaved, and badly clothed; the lukongs were well fed, clean, and wore good clothes. Therefore, would not a man of the stamp of the witness referred to at once pick out the three conspicuously dirty men?

The Attorney-General also addressed the jury and His Lordship then summed up.

His Lordship having summoned up, the jury retired at 6.50 p.m. and after an absence of a quarter-of-an-hour returned with a verdict of guilty against the first, third, and fourth prisoners. The second prisoner was found not guilty and was discharged. The first, third, and fourth prisoners were sentenced to death.

28th December.

##### IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE).

##### GUBBAY AND OTHERS v. BELILIOS.

The hearing was resumed of the equity suit in which the plaintiffs, D. A. Gubbay, A. J. Raymond, and A. J. David petitioned the Court, on behalf of themselves and of all others of the Jewish community in Hongkong, except the defendant, for a declaration that the defendant purchased a certain lot of land in this colony known as Inland Lot No. 1,381, as a trustee for and on behalf of the plaintiffs and of all the other members of the Jewish community in Hongkong, and that he now held the property in trust for the Jewish community subject to the payment to him of whatever monies he expended in the purchase.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. O. D. Thomson, of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings), appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. H. E. Pollock (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for the defendant.

Mr. A. J. David, a partner in the firm of E. D. Sassoon and Co., said he arrived in the colony on the 30th December, 1896, and succeeded Mr. Ezekiel in the management of the synagogue in March. Witness spoke of the meeting of the 15th March of the conversation that took place, and of the offer made in regard to the retaining wall. When the meeting broke up Mr. Belilios said, "Gentlemen, nothing is said."

Mr. A. Shelton Hooper and Mr. M. S. Northcott, of the Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited, also gave evidence as to the conversation between the Hon. C. P.

Chater and Mr. Danby on Macdonnel Road about having the lot of land put up for sale.

This closed the evidence and the Court then adjourned until this morning.

#### HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held at 3 p.m. on Friday, the 17th December. Present: Messrs. R. M. Gray (Chairman), Herbert Smith (Vice-Chairman), N. J. Ede, T. Jackson, N. A. Siebs, T. H. Whitehead, and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).

##### MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting (held 19th November) were read and confirmed.

##### NEW MEMBER.

Mr. W. F. Wenyou was elected to membership of the Chamber.

##### PIERS AND WHARVES COMMITTEE.

A letter was received on the 20th Nov. from the Government asking the Chamber to nominate a representative to serve on the Committee it was then proposed to appoint to consider and report on the position and arrangement of Government piers, and Mr. N. J. Ede was unanimously nominated to represent the Chamber.

Mr. Ede gave a brief *résumé* of the decisions arrived at by the Committee so far.

##### HONGKONG'S CONTRIBUTION TO POSTAL SUBSIDY.

Read letter from Postmaster-General, dated 25th Nov., forwarding copy of the reply of the General Post Office to the request by the Postal Subsidy sub-Committee to know "the weight of mail matter and the gross revenue derived by each of the following Governments—the Imperial, the Indian, and each of the various Colonial Governments—from mail matter carried by the P. & O. S.N. Co. under the subsidy contract with the British Government for the year ended the 31st March, 1897," regretting inability to supply the desired information.

##### THE PINNACLE ROCK FUND.

Letters on this subject had been despatched to the Commodore and to the British Consuls and the Commissioners of I.M. Customs at Canton, Hoihow, Pakhoi, Swatow, Amoy, Foochow, Wenchow, Ningpo, and Shanghai, and replies were read from Commodore's Secretary, enclosing letter from Admiral Sir A. Buller, in which the means of making known the existence of the Fund proposed by the Chamber (viz., through H.M.'s Consuls) is also suggested, and H.E. proposes that the awards should range from \$10 to \$50; and from H.B.M.'s Consul at Canton (dated 6th Dec.), from H.B.M.'s Consul at Amoy (dated 6th and 8th Dec.), and from the Commissioner of Customs, Swatow (dated 3rd Dec.), all courteously promising assistance and making suggestions.

These suggestions were considered at some length, and it was decided that the awards should range from \$10 to \$50 according to the importance of the danger divulged; that a credit of \$300 should be opened with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to each of the British Consuls at the nine ports above alluded to, and that the Commissioners of I.M. Customs should be asked to apply to the Consuls for any sums they awarded.

##### COMPLAINT OF OFFICIAL INTERFERENCE WITH TRADE IN KWANGSI.

A letter having been received from Mr. F. W. Watts complaining that, owing to the interference of the local officials at Fu Chuen, North Kwangsi, he had been unable to complete a transaction entered into with the owner of a coal mine in that district, who had been thrown into prison for selling coal to him in Sept. last, and for losses arising out of which action, preventing delivery of the coal, he had lodged a claim with the British Consul at Canton.

Representations were accordingly addressed to the Consul, requesting him to use his influence to obtain redress of the injury alleged.

Read reply from Mr. Consul Brennan, dated 15th inst., stating that he is in communication with the Viceroy on the subject, and has requested an explanation of the conduct of the Fu Chuen Officials.

## TYPHOON SIGNALS.

This question was again discussed, the general opinion being in favour of the former system of meteorological signals instead of the storm warnings now in use. It was decided to make further inquiries into the subject.

(Correspondence.)

## MR. WATTS'S CASE.

1, Victoria View, Kowloon,  
30th November, 1897.

The Secretary, The Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

Dear sir,—I shall be greatly obliged if you will bring the following facts to the notice of your committee.

In July and August last I visited the coal-fields of North Kwangsi with the object of finding out whether the coal was valuable as a fuel and if transport was practicable to the West River.

In September I returned and at a favourable spot for transport purchased a quantity of about 150 tons for carriage to Canton and Hongkong, depositing a part of the purchase money; but being attacked with ague I had to return to Hongkong, but left my interpreter (Mr. M. C. Shirazee) at the place to arrange for shipment and to see proper delivery. Mr. Shirazee has now returned and reports:—

The man Ho Ching Cheong and his wife have been arrested and taken to Fu Chuen and imprisoned and the money deposited has been returned into his hands; the pretext made is that the man was selling coal which did not belong to him.

To my own knowledge this man had been selling coal openly since July to various buyers, and from information given he had been doing so for a long time back. The Magistrate at Fu Chuen, whom I saw in August, mentioned the fact that this particular man was selling coal and said he hoped I should buy a large quantity so that the people would have more money.

Further, the purchase was made and deposit paid to the wife of Ho Ching Cheong in the presence of the headman of the place where the pits are situated, and the headman expressly stated that the coal sold was the seller's property, and that as Ho Ching Cheong was frequently absent his wife carried on both the mining and selling of coal during his absence.

After the arrest the people refused to have anything to do with Mr. Shirazee, or even to be seen speaking with him.

I have also reason to believe that the people have been notified that they cannot sell anything for export out of the province, with especial reference to minerals.

This is undoubtedly an attempt to prevent direct intercourse between the natives and foreigners in contravention of treaty rights.

I have reported the matter to H. B. M.'s Consul, Canton, with an intimation that a claim for actual loss entailed will be sent in, and I would respectfully ask that my complaint be backed up by a representation from the Chamber of Commerce, as the action of the Fu Chuen Magistrate, if unreversed and unchecked, would effectually stop any exploitation of the coal deposits of North Kwangsi, whereas if left free from meddlesome and oppressive interference by the officials, the natural development of the coal and iron deposits might prove of immense advantage to the locality and to the industries of Hongkong.

Trusting to hear from you in due course,—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

FRANK W. WATTS.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,  
Hongkong, 13th December, 1897.

Sir,—This Chamber has received from Mr. F. W. Watts a statement in which he complains of mandarin interference, and consequent loss, in the attempt to carry on an export business from Kwangsi.

Briefly the complaint is as follows:—In September last Mr. Watts purchased about 150 tons of coal in Northern Kwangsi from the owner of the mine, a man named Ho Ching Cheong. After depositing a portion of the purchase money with the owner's wife, Mr. Watts, who was suffering from an attack of ague, left his interpreter to make arrangements for the transport of the mineral to Hongkong. Shortly after the departure of Mr. Watts, we

are informed that Ho Ching Cheong and his wife were arrested and thrown into prison at Fu-Chuen, on the pretext that he was selling coal that did not belong to him. Mr. Watts states that the man had previously been selling coal openly since July to various buyers, and had been doing so for a long period. He also says he has reason to believe that the natives have been told that they could not sell anything for export out of the province.

This appears to be a quite unjustifiable interference, and calculated to prejudice any similar attempts to extend trade in the Two Kwang, and as such calls for immediate protest. I understand that Mr. Watts has reported the case to you and sent in a claim for actual loss sustained by the action of the local authorities; and so far as this Chamber can judge, from the *prima facie* evidence before it, he has an undoubted grievance, which my Committee trust you will use your influence to redress, not only on the score of the hardship entailed in the present instance, but also with a view to checking such official interference between purchaser and seller in the future.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant.

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,  
Secretary.

Byron Brenan, Esq., C.M.G., H.B.M.'s Consul,  
Canton.

H. B. M.'s Consulate,  
Canton, 14th December, 1897.

Sir,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 13th instant.

I have already brought Mr. Watts's complaint to the notice of the Viceroy and requested him to call on the local officials for an explanation.

I learn from Her Majesty's Consul at Wuchow that there is an increasing export trade under transit certificates in the Kwangsi province, so that I expect to hear that the obstruction placed in the way of Mr. Watts is due to some other cause than a desire to prohibit native produce leaving the province.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

BYRON BRENNAN,  
Consul.

The Chairman, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,  
Hongkong, 10th December, 1897.

To F. W. Watts, Esq.,

Dear Sir,—I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 30th ult. complaining of the action of the officials in North Kwangsi and asking this Chamber's support in your representations to the British Consul at Canton.

In reply, I am instructed to say that your letter has been considered by my Committee and communications opened with H. B. M.'s Consul at Canton, from whom a reply was received yesterday stating that the matter, is receiving his attention.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,  
Secretary.

## TWO GREAT MEN.

## HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S LECTURE.

"Two small sketches of two great men" was a vague announcement, but it attracted a room full of people at Government House on the 22nd December. There was an additional attraction in that His Excellency the Governor was the painter of the sketches, but it would be difficult to say whether curiosity as to the identity of the two men or the Governor himself proved the greater attraction. The members of the Odd Volumes Society all wondered who were the particular great men they were to hear about and if anyone thought two local celebrities were to be honoured he was very greatly mistaken. The giants were Milton and Handel, about whom the Governor had much that was interesting to say.

The proceedings opened with a short speech by Hon. W. M. Goodman, the President of the Society, who spoke of the keen interest that the Governor took in all things appertaining to the physical and intellectual improvement of the people, and of how sorry the residents of Hongkong were that His Excellency was shortly to leave them. This would be the last lecture His Excellency would deliver to the

Odd Volumes Society and they could only hope that the next Governor would be as kind to them as the present one had always been.

His Excellency then read his paper, which was most ably written. As he hinted at the outset, he did not limit his remarks to his subject, but took a poetic licence with those old masters, Milton and Handel, and made them pegs on which to hang his literary venture. His Excellency discoursed eloquently on literature, then gave a character sketch of Milton, then a historical essay on music, and concluded with a sketch of Handel. In conclusion His Excellency drew a parallel between those two great and powerful men. Both physically and mentally there was a remarkable similarity between them. They were both men of the highest character and of the brightest intelligence. Milton was no mean musician, and a musician is a poet. They were both afflicted with blindness and their best works were written late in life. Both at certain periods of life were steeped in poverty. Milton was insulted and hunted by adversaries and was certainly once bankrupt. Handel, owing to the machinations of his enemies, was made a bankrupt on two occasions. In their literary and musical efforts they were both animated by the same feelings and the same desires. Their object, which, happily for the nation, is still being accomplished, was to enlist the best and deepest sympathies of the people, to elevate the standard of thought and of living, and to leave a permanent impress of good upon the readers and bearers of their immortal works. The lives of both were excessively laborious, but nothing, not even blindness, could daunt their energy or damp their spirit. A week before his death Handel was present at a performance of "Messiah." No one, however fickle or frivolous, could read Milton's imperishable bequest, "Paradise Lost," or listen to the divine strains of the "Messiah," "Israel in Egypt," or "Judas Maccabeus," without feeling "the Deity within," or at least being profoundly impressed and probably benefited thereby. The domestic lives of both men were adorned by virtue, humility, and love. In the mind of Milton were purity and piety absolute. Handel was a man of blameless morals and manifested a deep and rational sense of religion.

At the conclusion of the lecture a very hearty vote of thanks was passed to His Excellency.

## FAREWELL CONCERT BY THE WEST YORKS BAND.

The Band of the West Yorkshire Regiment has done so much to raise the standard of music in Hongkong and contributed so much to the entertainment of the community that it was only fitting that the public should bid the Regiment farewell at a concert given at the City Hall on Thursday evening, 23rd December. When the Regiment arrived in the colony about twelve months ago musical enthusiasm was in a somewhat evanescent stage but thanks to a great extent to Mr. W. G. Bentley and his Band the apathetic feeling has in a large measure disappeared, and people are now more inclined to give an attentive ear to the highest quality of music, although it must be confessed there are still times when true merit appeals in vain for support and is unrewarded. Everyone must feel sorry that the West Yorks Band will in a few days leave us and we can only trust that the Band of the incoming Regiment will contribute as largely to the entertainment of residents as the outgoing Band has done. Lancashire is a very musical county and we have great hopes that its military representatives will be worthy successors of the West Yorks.

The concert opened with Wagner's Fest March "Tannhäuser," for which the Band had the assistance of the Philharmonic Society's orchestra. The augmentation of string instruments undoubtedly improved the rendering of the piece, which was played with great vigour and was loudly applauded. The overture from "Maritana," which was played without the assistance of the amateurs, was really magnificent. The crescendo and diminuendo passages were played with perfect precision and feeling, the oboe and clarinet parts being introduced with considerable success, while the staccato chords were admirable in time and expression. The third item was a reed quartette, (a) "Trauerelei" (Schumann), and (b) "Menuet from XII

Symphony" (Hady). Corporal Harper played the flute, Corporals Seaborne, Seragg, and Aslin, the clarionets, and Musician Wheeler the bassoon. Both pieces were excellently rendered, the combination having a very pretty effect. An oboe solo, "Serenade Villageoise," by Riviere, was next given by Musician Quaid, who is certainly an adept on this instrument, and his performance was heartily received. He was accompanied on the piano by Mrs. C. S. Gordon, who, as usual, most ably fulfilled her duties. The last item of the first part was Gounod's "Faust," which was given by the whole Band. This has always been a popular piece with Hongkong audiences and on Thursday night it again gave much satisfaction.

Handel's Large signalled the opening of the second part, the Band being assisted by the Philharmonic Society's orchestra, M. A. Giraud playing the violin obligato and Mr. G. Grimble the organ. This item was most beautifully given and won the admiration of the whole audience. Godfrey's "Reminiscences of Bellini" was next played, and in this the Band fully maintained their high standard of excellence. A brass quartette, Mendelssohn's "Farewell to the Forest" and "The Hunter's Farewell" next commanded attention, Musicians Haley and Seaborne playing the cornets, Musician Good the baritone, and Musician Brown the Euphonium. The interpretation of these beautiful pieces was very realistic and so delighted were the audience that they demanded and received an encore. Mr. W. G. Bentley then gave a clarinet solo, Beethoven's "Romance in F," Mrs. C. S. Gordon again accompanying on the piano. The solo was one of the choice tit-bits of the evening and as a reward Mr. Bentley was compelled to respond with "The last rose of summer" with variations. The last item was the grand national fantasia arranged by Mr. Bentley. At the conclusion the Band played the Regimental march, "God Bless the Prince of Wales," and "God Save the Queen," and then the audience warmly cheered the Band and a highly successful concert was brought to a close.

And now a word as to the West Yorkshire Regiment itself. The men will leave Hongkong to the great regret of all the residents, who, we are sure, will wish them success in whatever part of the British Empire their services are required in. We have never had a better behaved regiment in the colony. Their exemplary conduct during the whole of their stay here has won for them the admiration of everyone, and it is to be regretted that they could not remain on the station for a much longer period. Their proficiency in drill has also been much commented upon and this high standard is no doubt to some extent attributable to the good feeling existing between Colonel Gordon and his officers and the rank and file. The men love their Colonel—the "old man"—as they like to call him—and under such circumstances the Regiment must prosper.

#### FIRE AT THE NAVAL YARD.

Soon after one p.m. on the 22nd December a fire was discovered in the cookhouse used by the Indians at the Naval Yard. The cookhouse is in the police quarters block and is situated on the roof at the extreme western end of the building, which is three storeys in height. How the fire originated is not exactly known, but it is thought that carelessness on the part of an Indian cook caused the outbreak. The alarm was given immediately the discovery was made and the whole of the Naval Yard firemen were at their stations in a most commendably short time, and three minutes after the bell rang a copious supply of water was being directed on the flames. It was very fortunate indeed that the firemen responded so promptly to the call, because if the flames had obtained anything like a firm hold the whole building would most probably have been destroyed. There is a large store containing thousands of gallons of oil on the ground floor of the block and if the flames had reached this part the damage would have been enormous. However, the firemen worked admirably, Commodore Holland superintending the operations, and before the arrival of the city firemen, who were telephoned for, the flames were practically subdued. The roof at the far end of the building was burnt and the

wood in the cookhouse was likewise charred, but perhaps the most serious damage was done to bedding and certain stores which were soaked with water.

#### THE BRIBERY PUNISHMENT ORDINANCE.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 20th Dec. a Bill entitled "An Ordinance for the more effectual Punishment of Bribery and certain other Misdemeanours" was read a first time. The following statement of reasons and objects was attached to the Bill:—

In England, every person convicted of a misdemeanour, for which no special punishment is provided by law, is liable to fine and imprisonment without hard labour (both or either) and to be put under recognizances to keep the peace and be of good behaviour, at the discretion of the Court. The statutes 3 Geo. 4 c. 114 and 14 and 15 Vict. c. 100 s. 29 have, however, added power to inflict hard labour in addition, in a number of cases, and the local Ordinance, No. 2 of 1869, section 7, conferred a like power upon the Court here, in the cases mentioned in 14 and 15 Vict. c. 100 s. 29. In the more modern codes, approved by the Secretary of State and in force in some of the colonies, the law authorises imprisonment with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding a year in all cases of misdemeanour where no special punishment is provided, and it is thought that a similar punishment, with or without the addition of a fine, should be provided in this colony.

The misdemeanour of bribery is treated very severely in the Straits Settlements, where a maximum punishment of three years' imprisonment with or without hard labour, as well as a fine, may be inflicted not only on public servants who accept bribes, but also on those who offer them. The provisions of the Penal Code in force in that colony as regards offences of this description are, however, somewhat complicated.

In Hongkong, no power of inflicting hard labour on offenders convicted of accepting or offering bribes exists, and this state of things should not be allowed to continue. It is thought that the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of this Ordinance will meet the requirements of the case.

Section 7 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1869, which omitted some misdemeanours which might fitly have been included in the circumstances of this colony, is, accordingly repealed.

#### SPECIAL LICENSING SESSION.

On the 28th Dec., a special session of the Justices of the Peace was held at the Magistracy to consider the application of G. H. Schwalm for a publican's license for the premises, formerly known as the Grand Hotel, Nos. 240, 242, and 244, Queen's Road Central, under the sign of the Central Hotel. Hon. H. E. Wodehouse presided and there were also present Dr. Hartigan, Rev. R. F. Cobbold, Messrs. G. Murray Bain, H. Wicking, and W. M. B. Arthur. Mr. Master appeared for the applicant.

The Chairman read the police report, which was signed by Deputy Superintendent Howe. It stated that the applicant was a man of straw. He had never held a licence before and the application was merely a blind put forward by Hock Goon and his wife. An agreement had been entered into by the parties to the effect that Mr. Hock Goon had disposed of his interest in the house for \$2,000, \$200 to be paid down and the balance to be paid over as soon as the licence was granted, Hock Goon and his wife to remain in the place until the amount was paid. The smallness of the amount to be paid over at once showed that the sale was not *bona fide* and that it was decidedly objectionable for the Hock Goons to remain on the premises.

Mr. Master called for proof of the statements contained in the police report and handed the Magistrate a copy of the agreement mentioned in the report.

Mr. Arthur mentioned that there were two applications for this house and in each case the same two sureties came forward. Apparently the man offering the best terms was accepted.

In answer to a question the applicant said the Hock Goons would remain in the house until the money agreed upon was paid.

Mr. Master applied for an adjournment, as he wished to ascertain if the report was correct. His client was not going to pay any money if his licence was to be refused. He (Mr. Master) could quite understand that the application would be refused if the report was founded on fact, as it really said that the Hock Goons were to run the hotel in somebody else's name. If that was the case he would have nothing to do with the application, but he was instructed that the application was a *bona fide* one.

The Justices consented to adjourn the application until Friday week.

#### OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

##### TENTH YEAR.

Superintending Examiner, Rev. T. W. Pearce.

##### BOYS.

###### Senior (Pass).

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| (J) France, J., A.A.     | (J) Xavier, E. M., A.A.    |
| (J) Noronha, E. J., A.A. | (Q) Humphreys, A. D., A.A. |
| (J) O'Toole, C. L., A.A. | (Q) Lee, C. H., A.A.       |

##### JUNIOR (CLASS).

- (D) 2nd Class—Ford, E. S., Distinguished English.

###### Junior (Pass).

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| (D) Benning, G.       | (J) Simoes, M. P.    |
| (D) Lewis, W. A.      | (J) Talara, B.       |
| (D) Waller, R. H.     | (Q) Silas, C. D.     |
| (J) Guterres, L. E.   | (V) Joseph, J. E.    |
| (J) Pugh, E. A.       | (V) Ruttonjee, J. H. |
| (J) Ribeiro, F. X. V. |                      |

##### Over Age.

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| (D) Reiners, W.  | (Q) Pestonjee, R.    |
| (J) Hopun, P. M. | (V) d' Aquino, E. G. |

##### Preliminary (Pass).

- |               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| (D) Olson, J. | (J) Biard, H. V. |
|---------------|------------------|

##### Over Age.

- |                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| (D) Herton, E. R. | (J) Costa, H. |
| (D) Li Chi-on     |               |

##### GIRLS.

###### Senior (Pass).

- |                           |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| (V) de Souza, A. M., A.A. | (V) Mehta, S., A.A. |
|---------------------------|---------------------|

###### Junior (Pass).

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| (V) Baker, A. E. J.  | (V) Rodger, M. F. |
| (V) Henderson, I. C. |                   |

##### Over Age.

- (P) Rustomjee, G. M.

##### Preliminary (Pass) Over Age.

- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| (V) Marcus, M.       | (B) Benning, A. |
| (V) Yvanovich, A. M. | (B) Logan, C.   |
- B=Baxter School; P=Private Tuition; D=Diocesan School; Q=Queen's College; J=St. Joseph's College; V=Victoria English Schools.

#### MASONIC INSTALLATIONS.

At the regular meeting of the Ionic Lodge, No. 1781, held at Amoy on the 14th December, Bro. John Hutchison was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, and appointed and invested his officers as follows:—S.W., Wor. Bro. F. Cass; J.W., Bro. W. E. Keay; Treasurer, Wor. Bro. F. B. Marshall; Secretary, Bro. F. H. Edwards; S.D., Wor. Bro. C. S. Powell; J.D., Bro. C. H. Best; D.C., Bro. A. Piehl; Steward, Bro. A. B. Barrier; I.G., Bro. H. T. T. Moller; Tyler, Bro. J. Phillips.

At the regular meeting of the Corinthian Lodge, No. 1806, Amoy, held on the 11th December, Bro. J. G. Gotz was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, and appointed and invested his officers as follows:—S.W., Bro. J. H. Pearson; J.W., Bro. E. Q. Cooper; Treasurer, Bro. Lee Khong Teek; Secretary, Bro. F. H. Edwards; S.D., Bro. R. C. Radomski; J.D., Bro. F. H. Lucassen; D.C., Wor. Bro. F. B. Marshall; Steward, Wor. Bro. B. Nicholls; I.G., Wor. Bro. B. N. Jenkins; Tyler, Bro. J. Phillips.

A regular meeting of the Zetland Lodge was held on 27th Dec., when Bro. G. J. B. Sayer was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year by the Right Worshipful District Grand Master, Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., assisted by Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray, D.D.G.M., and the Grand Lodge officers. Wor. Bro. Sayer then appointed and installed his officers as follows:—S.W., Bro. J. Lochhead; J.W., Bro. G. Piercy, Junr.; Treasurer, Wor. Bro. G. A. Caldwell; Secretary, Bro. H. W. Kennett; S.D., Bro. G. C. Hayward; J.D., Bro.

J. W. L. Oliver; D.C., Bro. Sachse; Steward, Bro. D. Clarke; Organist, Bro. G. Grimble; I.G., Bro. G. H. Brost; Tyler, Bro. Maxwell. After the closing of the Lodge the brethren sat down to dinner. The room was most tastefully and appropriately decorated and during the evening the band of the Hongkong Regiment played selections of music. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and songs and recitations concluded a very enjoyable evening.

The annual installation meeting of Victoria Lodge, No. 1,026, was held on Wednesday evening, 22nd Dec., when Worshipful Brother G. P. Lammert, who had been re-elected Master of the Lodge for the ensuing year, was duly proclaimed. Bro. G. Balloch, the Worshipful Master elect of Foochow Lodge, No. 1912, being at present in Hongkong, the degree of an Installed Master was at the same time conferred upon him. The ceremony was impressively conducted by the District Grand Master, Right Wor. Bro. the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., assisted by Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray, District Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge Officers. After the installation Wor. Bro. Lammert invested his officers as follows:—S.W., Bro. C. W. Spriggs; J.W., Bro. W. K. Law; Treasurer, Bro. A. V. Apcar; Secretary, Wor. Bro. A. O'D. Gourdin; S.D., Bro. F. D. Goddard; J.D., Bro. J. H. Underwood; D.C., Bro. C. H. C. Platt; Steward, Bro. G. H. Potts, I.G., Bro. G. Grimble; Tyler, Bro. J. R. Grimble. The brethren afterwards adjourned to a banquet in the banquetting hall when the usual loyal and Masonic toast were duly honoured and a number of the brethren entertained the company with songs.

The annual meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Hongkong and South China was held on 28th Dec., the Deputy District Grand Master, Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray, presiding in the absence of the District Grand Master, Right Wor. Bro. the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G. The following officers were appointed and invested:—D.S.G.W., Wor. Bro. G. C. Anderson; D.J.G.W., Wor. Bro. P. R. Simmonds; D.G. Chaplain, Wor. Bro. F. B. Smith; D.G. Treasurer, Wor. Bro. P. H. W. Brewitt; D.G. Registrar, Wor. Bro. G. J. W. King; D.G. President of the Board of General Purposes, Wor. Bro. W. C. H. Hastings; D.G. Secretary, Wor. Bro. A. O'D. Gourdin; D.S.G.D., Wor. Bro. D. Macdonald; D.J.G.D., Wor. Bro. G. P. Lammert; D. G. Superintendent of Works, Wor. Bro. G. J. B. Sayer; D.G.D.C., Wor. Bro. F. W. Edwards; D. G. Assist. D.C., Wor. Bro. F. Salinger; D.G. Sword Bearer, Wor. Bro. G. Balloch; D.G. Standard Bearers, Wor. Bro. J. Hutchison and Bro. C. J. Lafrentz; D.G. Organist, Bro. G. Grimble; D.G. Pursuivant, Wor. Bro. D. Hall; D. Assist. Grand Pursuivant, Wor. Bro. J. G. Gotz; Grand Stewards, Bro. C. W. Spriggs, Bro. J. Bremner, Bro. D. E. Brown, Bro. J. H. Pearson, Bro. O. Struckmeyer; and Bro. F. H. Siemsen; D. G. Tyler, Wor. Bro. J. R. Grimble. Wor. Bro. R. Mitchell and Wor. Bro. H. E. A. Hoile were elected unofficial members of the Board of General Purposes.

#### THE HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL TRAMWAYS CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the thirteenth ordinary general meeting, to be held at the Company's Registered Offices, 38 & 40, Queen's Road Central, on Friday next at noon:—

To the shareholders of the Hongkong High-Level Tramways Co., Ltd.

Gentlemen,—We beg to lay before you the report and statement of accounts for the year ending 30th November, 1897.

The total receipts for the twelve months, including rent and transfer fees, amount to \$47,721.65. After paying interest and all running expenses and making provision for auditors' fees, there remains a net profit on the year's working of \$11,075.07, which, together with \$2,007.58 carried forward from last year, gives a sum of \$13,082.65 available for appropriation. Your General Managers and Consulting Committee recommend that a dividend of \$7.00 per share be paid to shareholders, absorbing \$8,750.00, that \$2,000.00 be written off the value of the Company's stations, Crown lease-

holds, and buildings, and that the balance, \$2,332.65, be carried forward to new account.

#### CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

In accordance with Rule 15 of the Company's Articles of Association, the present members, Messrs. Ewens and Orange, retire, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

#### AUDITORS.

Owing to the absence of Mr. Fullarton Henderson from the colony the accounts have been audited by Mr. W. H. Potts alone. Both gentlemen offer themselves for re-election.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1897.

#### BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH NOVEMBER, 1897.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital account: 1,250 shares of \$100 each fully paid up		125,000	00
Debentures: 60 of \$500 each		30,000	00
Local and general liabilities		7,324	57
Profit and loss: Brought forward	\$2,007.58		
Do. For current year	11,075.07		
		13,082.65	
		\$175,407.22	
ASSETS.		\$	c.
Permanent way, concession, and deed of grant		130,000	00
Stations, Crown leaseholds, and buildings (Inland lots 1317, 1332, 1333, 1334, 1335, 1353, and R. B. Lot 86)		15,388	48
Rolling stock		19,561	39
Furniture account		159	00
Coals and stores in hand		185	91
Accounts receivable		132	00
Cash in H. & S. Bank	\$9,354.44		
Cash and compradore's orders in hand	623.00		
		9,977	44
		\$175,407.22	

#### WORKING ACCOUNT.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.		\$	c.
To salaries and wages		14,678	77
To charges		1,919	83
To maintenance and repairs		5,762	48
To coals and stores		5,953	09
To interest		2,488	68
To rates, crown rent, and fire insurance		793	75
To godown and station rent		900	00
To general managers' and auditors' fees		1,350	00
To office rent and clerks' salaries, &c.		1,800	00
To balance		13,082	65
		\$49,729.23	
CONTRA.		\$	c.
By amount brought forward from last ar		2,007	58
By transfer fees		30	00
By rent		289	00
By traffic receipts for the year to date		47,402	65
		\$49,729.23	

#### THE PUNJOM MINING CO., LIMITED.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Company, Limited, advises us that he has received the following progress report for November from the manager at the Company's Mines in Pahang:—

August Shaft 300 feet Level.—We have continued to give our best attention to the driving of the cross-cut here and considering the very hard character of the ground fair progress has been made. The total drivage for the month here is 34 feet, making the full length from the shaft 100 feet. At the date of my last report we seemed to be getting more favourable ground, but after driving a few feet only it became very hard and bad for blasting. We have now reached quite a change in the rock and I have no doubt this is the commencement of the better channel I spoke to you about some months ago as likely to be met with. I have no doubt this good ground will carry us up to the reef and will allow of much better progress being made in future.

The heavy timbers for carrying the plunger pump have been fixed and the windrose, matching piece, and "dead-end" timbers put in position. We are now waiting the arrival of the valve door pieces, etc., and as soon as they reach us we shall commence to rear up the column and put in the necessary rods to connect at the 200 feet level.

200 feet Level.—The crosscut going out to receive the north shaft reached its destination some days ago, when work there was discontinued. To-day the shaft connected by means of a drill hole and we are now blasting out ground to complete it to the bottom of the

crosscut. So soon as this is done sinking will be resumed at once in order to intersect the western chute of ore seen at this level.

The north drive on the course of the reef is still in lode matter, but up to this time the ore broken is very poor.

North Shaft.—We have made a little better progress in sinking this shaft than was made for October, 19 feet 6 inches having been completed. As already noted this shaft has reached the 200 feet level and connected with the crosscut there.

Drivage.—The total drivage for the month is 94 feet.

Ore mined.—38 tons.

Milling.—This was carried on during 29 days crushing 38 tons of ore from the mine yielding 10 ozs., and 2,500 tons of old headings yielding 165 ozs. 14 dwts of melted gold.

Berdan Pans.—These ran full time on old weathered concentrates treating 30 tons yielding 20 ounces of smelted gold.

Cyanide Works.—These works ran 26 days, treating 720 tons of tailings for a yield of 225 ozs 14 dwts of bullion valued at 18/9 per oz.

General.—The usual attention has been given to all work coming under this head and every thing kept in good order. The foundations for the new balance bob have been put in and the bob itself, together with the other necessary wood and iron work, are in a forward condition. Labour.—The supply of this has about met our demands.

Health.—This, owing to the cold wet weather, has not been at all good, fever being very prevalent. With the return of warmer weather this should again improve.

Rainfall.—The total rainfall for the month is 6½ inches.

#### CRICKET.

##### HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB V. UNITED SERVICES.

This time honoured and interesting engagement was kept in the finest cricketing weather and brought into conflict all the best cricketing talent in the colony. Good judges foretold a win for the Navy and Army, their calculations being based on the known weakness of the Club bowling and the strength of the Services' batting. The prophecy was justified, but not in quite so full a measure as was expected, for the Club ran up the fine score of 312, which compelled the other side to work hard for its win, which, as will appear later, was achieved mainly by the efforts of one man. On a good wicket, the Club made an auspicious start with Smith and Maitland, who caused 162 to appear on the board before they were departed. Both received a certain amount of indulgence, due, perhaps, to the eminently friendly nature of the game, or perhaps to other causes too many to be enumerated but easily thought of considering the time of the year. However that may be, the point is that the batsmen availed themselves of their luck and put the Club on a strong ground at the start. Other useful contributions came from Cox, Noble, and R. F. Lammert, the last named batting in better style and with more assurance than usual. Of the Service bowlers, Wood was the best by a long way with six wickets for 89 runs, being especially effective when the game was resumed on Boxing Day. Pead was all that could be desired behind the sticks, but some of the men under his command far from honourably distinguished themselves in the field. Starting their innings with Pead and Dyson, the first Service wicket fell at 13, but after this Wood and Pead and Campbell banged the bowling all over the place, the W.Y.R. man and the H.K.R. man being unusually busy in the half hour before tiffin, just prior to which Campbell lost his wicket, having helped to raise the score from 106 to 222. This was the stand that won the match. All the cricketers present at tiffin drank the health of the cricketing members of the W.Y.R. and in reply the health of the H.K.C.C. was given, and responded to by Mr. Wodehouse. On resuming, Wood, who had then scored 100, soon became busy and received able support from Gillett and Howard, who scored 20 and 39 respectively, but having put his side ahead, Wood grew rash and fell a victim to a smart bit of stumping by Kew. The retiring batsman had made 170 in

his [very best style, driving and cutting well and keeping the ball close to the ground. It was not a chanceless innings; but after all, so far as the enjoyment of cricket counts (however much chagrin the Club may have felt), it is not without its compensations that a really capable bat should have played a brilliant innings, luck notwithstanding. With five wickets down for 327 and good batsmen yet to be engaged, it looked like an all the day outing for the Club, but the luck veered and the remaining five wickets added but 61 runs, of which Dewar claimed 35. Smith's bowling was for once a failure, though this was not altogether his fault. Mackenzie had two wickets for 13, but discounted this performance by some extraordinary fielding. Gillingham and R. F. Lammert and Cox stuck to it, but had to be content with mediocre averages. Kew allowed only four byes, a creditable performance in a score of 388; he should however, practice taking the ball, which is his weak point. There was some quite unnecessarily hard throwing in on the Club side, which lost several runs; more discretion in this respect is desirable. The Club went in a second time at 4 p.m. and ran up 100 for five wickets in an hour, Cox, Gillingham, and R. F. Lammert all doing well.

By the courtesy of Col. Gordon and Col. Retallick and the Officers of the W. Y. R. and H.K.R., the bands of the regiments added much to the pleasure of the game by playing on the ground.

Appended are the score and analysis:—

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.					
1st Innings.			2nd Innings.		
T. Sercombe	Smith, c				
Campbell, b Wood	71				
F. Maitland, c Pead, b					
Shelford	84				
P. A. Cox, c Pead, b Wood	24	b Howard	32		
A. S. Anton, c Howard, b					
Wood	12	c Rawson, b Howard	9		
A. Mackenzie, c sub, b					
Wood	6	c Gillett, b Shelford	8		
J. R. Gillingham, c Lang-					
horne, b Dewar	14	b Howard	27		
R. F. Lammert, b Lang-					
horne	23	not out	19		
J. F. Noble, c Langhorne,					
b Wood	23	b Shelford	4		
F. Lammert, b Wood	13				
F. H. Kew, not out	1				
E. R. Morris, l.b.w., b					
Shelford	10				
Extras	10	Extras	3		
Total	312	Total	102		

BOWLING ANALYSIS.					
First Innings.					
Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wickets.
M. D. Wood	33	12	89	—	6
H. A. Gillett	6	1	22	—	—
C. Ryall	6	—	32	—	—
R. G. Dewar	22	2	65	1	1
T. N. Howard	12	2	30	—	—
T. Shelford	10	1	49	—	2
Langhorne	1	—	8	—	1
Second Innings.					
T. Shelford	10	2	34	—	2
T. N. Howard	12	1	57	—	3
Gillett, R.N.	4	2	7	—	—
C. Ryall	1	—	1	—	—

UNITED SERVICES.					
Pead, R.N., b R. F. Lammert	39				
Dyson, A.P.D., b Gillingham	10				
Wood, W.Y.R., st. Kew, b Morris	170				
Campbell, H.K.R., c F. Lammert, b Cox	49				
Gillett, R.N., c and b Noble	20				
Howard, W.Y.R., run out	39				
Dewar, R.N., c Maitland, b Mackenzie	35				
Langhorne, R.A., l.b.w., b Gillingham	0				
Rawson, R.N., c and b R. F. Lammert	0				
Ryall, W.Y.R., b Mackenzie	10				
Shelford, R.N., not out	1				
Extras	15				
Total	388				

BOWLING ANALYSIS.					
Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wickets.
Gillingham	18	4	44	—	2
Sercombe	21	1	82	—	—
R. F. Lammert	19	2	76	—	2
A. Mackenzie	4.3	—	13	—	2
Noble	6	—	25	—	1
F. Lammert	11	1	50	—	3
P. A. Cox	19	3	63	—	1
E. R. Morris	4	—	17	—	1

An apprentice named Epps, belonging to the United States flag-ship *Olympia*, was drowned at Nagasaki on the night of the 12th December. He is believed to have been murdered by sampan-men.

### YACHT RACE.

On Saturday, 18th Dec., a very sporting event was arranged between the owners of seven of the boats of the Yacht Club by Capt. Phillips, the popular A.D.C. to H.E. the Governor, he also presenting a valuable prize for the competition, in which the boats were steered by members nominated by the donor of the prize:—

steered by.		
Active	Mr. H. E. Pollock	Mr. Tomes
Meteor	Mr. C. H. Kew	Mr. Bannerman
Maid Marian	Mr. J. Hastings	Mr. Pollock
Phoebe	Hon. F. H. May	Mr. Hastings
Erica	Mr. A. Denison	Mr. May
Sybil	Officers R.E.	Mr. Kew
Chanticleer	Mr. C. A. Tomes	Capt. Rogers

The Active and Meteor received 2½ minutes and the Sybil 6 minutes time allowance.

The course was from the Police Pier, Kowloon, round Meyer's west buoy, Kowloon Rock, Meyer's east buoy, Channel Rocks, and back to the Police Pier; about 9 miles.

The boats were sent off at 2 p.m. with a light but steady west wind, which lasted all through the race. Erica most ably steered by the commodore (more power to his elbow) at once went to the front, getting round the first mark about 50 yards ahead, all the rest going round in a bunch. A reach took them to Kowloon Rock, where a similar rounding took place. Erica still in the van. A reach back to Meyer's east buoy in the same order and a run down wind brought the boats to Channel Rocks, when the times were:—

	H.	M.	S.
Erica	3	21	0
Phoebe	3	24	50
Meteor	3	25	30
Chanticleer	3	27	10
Maid Marian	3	27	30
Sybil	3	28	30
Active	3	28	30

It was a pretty sight to see the boats all rounding the rock within a few seconds of each other, this alone no doubt repaying Captain Phillips for his trouble and anxiety in arranging the match. Up to this point, considering the time allowances, it appeared any boat's race, but now a change came over the spirit of the dream. Erica, putting in very tall sailing indeed, went away from the fleet in fine style, doing the three miles dead to windward in less than 50 minutes, beating the Phoebe by four minutes in the beat up. Finish:—

	H.	M.	S.
Erica, winner	4	10	22
Phoebe, third	4	17	58
Meteor, second on time	4	20	Q
Chanticleer	4	23	30
Active	4	24	31
Maid Marian	4	28	20
Sybil	4	34	1

### ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB

#### FOURTH CLUB RACE.

This race was sailed on Sunday in a steady whole sail breeze, which has been the exception of late. The course was from the Police Pier, Kowloon, round Kowloon Rock, Channel Rocks, mark boat off Lyemun, Kowloon Rock, and Channel Rocks, all to starboard; 12 miles. The second class boats were sent off at 1.20 and the first class at 1.30.

The following boats competed:—

SECOND CLASS.		
Dart	Dr. Clark	
Payne	Officers, R.E.	
Ladybird	Mr. C. D. Wilkinson	

FIRST CLASS.		
Active	Mr. H. E. Pollock	
Meteor	Mr. T. W. Lammert	
Princess	Mr. J. McKie	
Maid Marian	Mr. J. Hastings	
Phoebe	Mr. F. H. May	
Erica	Mr. A. Denison	
Sybil	Officers, R.E.	
Chanticleer	Mr. C. A. Tomes	

The wind was west at the start, with a weak flood tide against the boats. In the run down to Dock Point the three boats in the B class kept well together and were becalmed for a short time at the point, after which the wind turned to north, making a beat up to Kowloon Rock. In the A class, Erica led as far as the Docks, where the calm had to be negotiated. Meteor got

through first, followed by Phoebe, Maid Marian, Active, Erica, Sybil, and Chanticleer in the order named. On the beat up to Kowloon Rock the Maid passed Phoebe, and Erica passed both Active and Phoebe, the times at this mark being:—

	H.	M.	S.
Ladybird	2	16	19
Dart	2	17	30
Payne	2	18	35
Meteor	2	21	15
Maid Marian	2	22	00
Erica	2	22	15
Phoebe	2	22	45
Active	2	23	07
Chanticleer	2	24	30
Sybil	2	25	00

It will be observed that the A class had gained four minutes, on an average, on the B class at this point. A run before the wind passing Channel Rocks brought them to the Lyemun mark, when Erica had passed Maid Marian. On the beat up to Kowloon Rock the second time several changes took place, Erica and Meteor passing all the second class boats, the former also getting in front of Meteor and round the rock a few seconds in front. Maid Marian also passed Payne and Dart; Active passed Phoebe, and Dart, and Phoebe passed Dart. The times here were:—

	H.	M.	S.
Erica	3	28	0
Meteor	3	28	20
Ladybird	3	29	17
Maid Marian	3	29	45
Active	3	31	34
Payne	3	32	15
Phoebe	3	32	16
Dart	3	34	31
Chanticleer	3	36	10
Sybil	3	40	45

The last two were not going at all well, the alterations to Sybil being no improvement apparently. Maid Marian passed Ladybird on the run to Channel Rocks, and Phoebe got in front of Payne, but otherwise the positions were unchanged. An uneventful reach brought the boats to the finish:—

A CLASS.					
	H.	M.	S.	Marks.	Total.
Erica	4	3	12	winner	10 28
Meteor	4	4	56	second	4 4
Maid Marian	4	5	19	third	1 22
Phoebe	4	7	20	—	— 1
Active	4	8	6	—	— 4
Chanticleer	4	13	52	—	— 1
Sybil	4	18	32	—	— —

B CLASS.					
	H.	M.	S.	Marks.	Total.
Ladybird	4	8	9	winner	10 28
Payne	4	11	23	second	4 28
Dart	4	19	31	third	1 2
She	—	—	—	—	— 1

### THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

#### "BOGEY" CUP COMPETITION.

A handsome cup having been presented by Mr. C. A. Tomes for the above trial of skill against "The Colonel," the attention of members has been devoted to the competition during the past fortnight, and some 30 entries were listed. The conditions of play were as follows: two rounds of 18 holes each against the veteran, competitors to declare before commencing their rounds and subscribe to the list on the club table; rules for the medal play to obtain, and rounds to be completed by the 20th inst. "The Colonel," who is proof against wind, sun, or rain, and absolutely indifferent to bunkers, accomplishes his rounds with the greatest regularity in 41 strokes for nine holes, and as a general rule proves a difficult foe with whom to try conclusions. However, on this occasion he was caught on two of his 9 hole rounds, the winning member being "all even," whilst neither he nor the runner up were ever more than two "down" to him. Mr. Smith is to be heartily congratulated on his success; his cards, including ten 5's, show very steady and greatly improved play, and he will not be surprised or displeased to find his name posted to a considerably reduced handicap. The genial medico's returns were good and but for evident trouble in both rounds at the hurdles—a 14 and an 11—he would have run

he winner a point or two closer, and possibly made a dead heat. The following are the returns received of completed rounds, the figures in brackets denoting the strokes allowed for the two rounds:—

Mr. Herbert Smith.....	(30)	3 down
Dr. J. M. Atkinson.....	(22)	5 "
Mr. G. Stewart.....	(4)	9 "
Mr. F. H. Pellew.....	(20)	11 "
Mr. W. J. Saunders.....	(22)	11 "
Mr. G. Millward.....	(22)	12 "
Mr. E. F. Mackay.....	(30)	18 "
Mr. C. Palmer.....	(16)	20 "

### SHOOTING MATCH.

#### HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS (KOWLOON DETACHMENT).

The second of a series of six competitions for a trophy presented by Mr. D. Gillies took place on the Police Range on 21st Dec. Fourteen members competed. The following were the best scores:—

	200	400	500	Handicap	Total
Gun. Stewart	31	31	30	Sc.	92
Sergt. McPhail	27	33	28	Sc.	88
Gun. Wilson	24	21	23	18	86
Gun. Gow	32	25	28	Sc.	85
Corp. Rutter	26	29	26	Sc.	81
Lieut. MacDonald	27	28	22	Sc.	77
Gun. Donaldson	20	21	11	21	73
Sergt. Henderson	26	26	21	Sc.	73
Gun. Deas	27	18	18	9	72
Gun. Swanston	19	21	21	9	70

#### ROYAL ARTILLERY ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The Royal Artillery athletic sports were held at the Happy Valley on the 21st Dec. The weather was fine and the spectators numerous. The various events were keenly contested, some of them evoking a great deal of interest, while others caused no little merriment. At the conclusion Mrs. Gordon distributed the prizes. The band of the Hongkong Regiment played several selections of music during the afternoon. The following were the officials:—

President:—Major Hanham, R.A.

Committee:—Lt. Greene, R.A.; Lt. Buzzard, R.A.

Sub-committee:—Q. M. S. Severn, C.Q.M.S. Blease, Sergt. Wells, Sergt. Belcher, Corp. Croucher, Corp. Matthews, Br. Cooney, Br. Salter, Br. Sleep, Br. Frost, Gr. Newberry, Gr. Ennis.

Judges:—Lt. Col. Fraser, Major Hanham, Capt. Simmonds, Lieut. Buzzard, Lieut. Davies.

Starters:—Captain Langhorne, Lieut. Greene.

The following were the results:—

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL; three tries; 1st prize \$5, 2nd \$3, 3rd \$1.

Br. Hankey.....	1
Gr. M. McFadden.....	2
Sergt. Wells.....	3

PUTTING THE SHOT; 1st prize \$8, 2nd \$5, 3rd \$2.

Corp. Woods.....	1
Corp. Croucher.....	2
Gr. Ryal.....	3

100 YARDS FLAT RACE; 1st prize \$8, 2nd \$4, 3rd \$2.

Br. Whately.....	1
Gr. McFadyen.....	2
Br. Turner.....	3

N. C. O's. RACE; 120 yards. Full ranks only; 1st prize \$10, 2nd \$5, 3rd \$3.

Corp. Croucher.....	1
Sergt. Wells.....	2
Br. Fane.....	3

WHEEL RACE; 120 yards; round a post; 1st prize \$8, 2nd \$5, 3rd \$2.

Tr. Adams.....	1
Corp. Croucher.....	2
Gr. McDonald.....	3

MILE RACE; 1st prize \$15, 2nd \$10, 3rd \$5.

Gr. McFadyen.....	1
Br. Turner.....	2
Gr. Warner.....	3

THREE-LEGGED RACE; 1st prize \$8, 2nd \$4, 3rd \$2.

Turner and Adams.....	1
Ryal and Stewart.....	2
Dunn and Attrell.....	3

BOYS' RACE; 120 yards; three yards start for every year under 14; 1st prize \$3, 2nd \$2, 3rd \$1.

Geo. Blease.....	1
J. Blease.....	2
S. Blades.....	3

VETERANS' HANDICAP; 100 yards; 10 years, one yard start for every year over 10; boys' service not to count; 1st prize \$10, 2nd \$5, 3rd \$3.

Gr. Clarke.....	1
Q. M. S. Blease.....	2
Gr. Young.....	3

TUG-OF-WAR; final H.K.R.A., by companies, heats to be pulled previously; 1st prize \$20, 2nd \$10.

No. 3 Co. H.K.R.A. (Capt. Gordon)	1
No. 2 Co. (Capt. Burney)	2

QUARTER MILE RACE; open to Garrison and Fleet; 1st prize \$20, 2nd \$10, 3rd \$5.

Pt. Moore, W.Y.....	1
Pt. Ross, W.Y.....	2
Pt. Hager, W.Y.....	3

LEAP FROG RACE; 120 yards; 1st prize \$5, 2nd \$3, 3rd \$2.

Adams and Turner.....	1
Warner and Kegan.....	2
Whately and Fane.....	3

HALF MILE RACE FOR COLONIAL TROOPS AND POLICE; 1st prize \$10, 2nd \$4.

Kadar Had.....	1
Gunder Singh.....	2

HALF MILE RACE; open to the World; two prizes.

Takah Singh.....	1
Pt. Agar.....	2

MOP COMBAT; 1st prize \$8, 2nd \$6, 3rd \$4.

Adams and Kegan.....	1
Ford and Hubbard.....	2
Herbert and Grumley.....	3

BAND RACE; three prizes.

Ahmad Dinh.....	1
Hirah Singh.....	2
Rakhbar Singh.....	3

TUG OF WAR.

No. 3 Company.....	1
No. 2 Company.....	2

CONSOLATION RACE; 200 yards, 1st prize \$8, 2nd \$4, 3rd \$3.

Quick.....	1
Cotter.....	2
Beaters.....	3

### THE PIRATICAL ATTACK ON HAIPHONG.

The *Courrier d'Haiphong* of the 18th December gives a detailed account of the attack on Haiphong in the early morning of the 16th December. It states that several days previously information had been received by the authorities and the European residents, through the Spanish missionaries, Annamite officials, and domestic servants, of the intended rising, but no importance seems to have been attached to the warning by the officials. The pirates had assembled eight days before at the Elephant's Hill, and had been regaling themselves with spirits and meat. They had made no secret of their intention to attack Haiphong, and had said that they had received orders from Heaven to exterminate the Europeans and the dynasty of Nguyen (the Annam dynasty), which was to be replaced by that of the Mac. On the morning in question they separated into two bands, each from 150 to 200 strong, and at 3 a.m. entered the town from different directions. One section made its way to the Quan An's house, setting fire to the numerous matsbeds and houses en route. The Quan An (a native military official) had been apprized of the intended attack and had left only the previous evening with about 100 militia, under the command of Inspector Lambert, to meet the rebels, at the Elephant's Hill. His body guard, which was left behind, stubbornly defended the place and opened fire on the assailants, of whom a great number were killed and wounded. The other band happened to pass the house in which Mr. Gauthier, of Mr. A. R. Marty's firm, was living. This unfortunate young man was awakened by the alarm and tried to escape, but was pursued by the pirates and hacked to death. His features were so horribly mutilated that they were unrecognizable. An employé of Mr. Faussemagne was also wounded. At 4 o'clock the troops were awakened by the alarm, but no

one thought that the situation was so grave. Thinking that it was merely the question of a fire a small body was sent out with a pump. As soon as this body realised the situation they hurried back to their quarters, and at six o'clock a company divided into two sections started in pursuit of the pirates. One of the sections came upon some stragglers from the bands and charged them with fixed bayonets. About fifteen of the pirates were either killed or severely wounded, and three banners were captured, bearing the following devices, "Let us obey the order from Heaven. Exterminate the Europeans. Exterminate the dynasty of the Nguyen. Dynasty of Mac." On each of the bodies of the slain was found a chip of bamboo bearing the characters "soldiers of heaven." It is averred that the rising is general in the Delta and that several other posts have likewise been attacked and burnt down; in one of them, Nui-Voi, Mr. Gagnard, an employé at the stone quarries of Mr. Faussemagne, had to jump from his window down a precipice of thirty meters to escape his assailants. He would certainly have been killed had it not been for the numerous shrubs and branches of trees which broke his fall. As it was, the injuries he received were of a very serious nature.

### NEWS FROM KIAOCHOU BAY.

The *N. C. Daily News* translates the following from *Der Ostasiatische Lloyd*:—

The chief town in the district of Kiaochou bay, now in German occupation, is Chimo. To reach this place from Tsingtao, off which the fleet is at anchor, a low pass is crossed from which a descent is made into a wide plain, richly cultivated. Another low range to the north planted with *Kiefern* divides this plain from a second rich valley, studded with villages, embowered in groves of fruit trees, up which a distance of 12 English miles (18 kilo.) brings one to the port of Tsangk'ou.

Tsangk'ou is a miserable harbour with a few small junks laid up on the mud left dry by the ebb-tide; it exports large quantities of cabbages to the Shanghai market; these come down from the interior on wheel-barrows. The people were quite friendly and the presence of the Germans did not seem to trouble them in the least.

Keeping the chain of the Laoshan mountains on our right hand, and passing through numerous prosperous villages, a long and tedious ride brought us at length to the fortified city of Chimo, some 30 English miles distant from Tsangk'ou. Already in the suburb we had the pleasure of saluting three German officers, but upon riding through the well-kept walls and entering the wide "Marktpaltz" in the centre of the town, we might almost have fancied ourselves in a German country town. A "park" of wagons with sentries guarding them; sailors and marines standing about at ease after their march; a group of officers, there a marching patrol, and all this right in the heart of China!

We called in at the quarters of the officers of H.G.M.S. *Kaiser* who had been already eight days installed here; they were thoroughly enjoying the new life on shore and were in the best of spirits. The German garrison generally is on excellent terms with the officials and people, who seems to have no objection to the foreign soldiers guarding their gates and patrolling their city walls. As to the civil magistrate Chu, he wisely put a good face on the matter from the first. With a district to govern 500 English square miles in extent, he has under him but few subordinate officials including the Customs clerks at the different ports. China is not troubled with over-government; the people practically govern themselves, the annually elected elders being responsible for order. Mr. Chu could hardly have dreamt a few weeks ago that his good quiet city of Chimo would be to-day the headquarters of an army of German sailors and marines; that German double-sentries would keep watch and ward on the walls; and that bands of "liberty" men would parade their streets and inspect their temples. Anyway, Mr. Chu received us with much apparent cordiality and, over the customary tea and hot cakes, answered freely the numerous questions with which we plied him during our visit.

He told us that land and people were alike poor; no resources beyond a little insignificant produce such as beans, pulse, bean-cake, cabbages, and pears. Neither coal nor other minerals existed in his district,—much less well-to-do merchants or indeed any trade worth mentioning.

Why then has China been occupied by 500 German troops? As far as we could learn, it is to prevent the re-assembly of any Chinese troops in the neighbourhood of their old camps.

Upon our return to Tsingtao we found that the Chinese general had been released on the 3rd of December from his confinement on board the *Prinzess Wilhelm* in consequence of the now established good relations between Germany and China precluding all future danger of attack by the latter. At 9 o'clock in the evening, after our interchange of presents, the deposed General rode off on horseback at the head of his soldiers—also set free—escorted by a detachment of our troops and headed by a company of Chinese lantern-bearers. On arriving at the "East Camp" he took leave of our land Commander, where champagne was drunk and the General expressed his gratitude for the kind treatment he had received at our hands. Already on the following day a letter was received from the General from his quarters outside our lines again expressing his hearty thanks for the many kindnesses shown him. Shortly after this his private belongings were sent on to him.

We found the British cruiser *Undaunted* in port on our return, the first foreign warship to visit the place since the German occupation. Tsingtao, 9th December.

### THE AMOY INCIDENT.

Singapore, 16th December.

The British Minister at Peking, in reply to the Straits Government, has refused to acknowledge Khun Yiong as a British subject.

Sir Claude Macdonald has forwarded to the Government a long statement from the British Consul at Amoy. In that statement, the Consul traverses the allegations made by Khun Yiong in his petition to the Straits Government. The Consul denies that the petitioner is a resident in the Straits Settlements. He says Khun Yiong has always resided in Amoy, where he has a wife and family. He has always passed as a Chinese subject, and he owns landed property in the interior which no British subject is allowed to do.

On these grounds, the British Minister at Peking refuses to acknowledge Khun Yiong.

A copy of the Consul's statement has been forwarded by the Government to Messrs. Bradell Bros., who are representing Khun Yiong, with the request that they will produce such evidence as they can in support of the petitioner's statements.

Until the Straits Government are in possession of evidence that will clearly prove Khun Yiong to be a British subject, and that will rebut the evidence of the British Consul, nothing further can be done.—*Straits Times*.

### SHOCKING SUICIDE AT SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, 24th December.

A shocking tragedy was enacted this morning in the Manager's office of the Club Concordia, which has thrown a depressing gloom over the usual Christmas festivities which make that favourite institution a centre of attraction at this season of the year. At tiffin time to-day it was noticed by some of the members that the usual menus were not on the tables, and a servant was sent upstairs to see the Manager about the omission. The door of his office was found locked on the inside and suspicions were thereby aroused. Some workmen on the premises were requisitioned to break open the door, when some of the members and Committee-men entering, found Mr. Obaldo Kluth, the Secretary and Manager, lying dead upon the sofa. Medical assistance was hastily summoned and Dr. Macleod was first to arrive; but the unfortunate man was beyond the reach of medical skill, life having been extinct for some time. A bottle of chloroform was found alongside the body, which smelt strongly of the drug, and it was plain how death had been caused, namely, by inhalation of its fumes.

The deceased was well known and much respected in Shanghai, but it is feared he had lately got into pecuniary difficulties. He had been the Manager of the Club for some five years, and previous to that was an Inspector in the Municipal Police Force. He leaves a widow and several children with whom much sympathy is felt in their sudden desolation at a season when the bulk of mankind puts on a real or masquerading garb of festivity and rejoicing.—*China Gazette*.

### THE ROUND-THE-WORLD CYCLISTS.

Shanghai, 24th December.

With machines looking as if they had seen a good deal of service, dressed in very workman-like suits of brown, square but healthy-looking, Messrs. Fraser, Lunn, and Lowe completed their 524th day of travel since leaving London, at Jessfield yesterday morning. Before the public reception Mr. and Mrs. Hogg entertained them at luncheon. Soon after three the public began to gather in the grounds of Unkaza, and by half-past three there was a large assemblage of ladies and gentlemen, the majority of whom had come on their bicycles. Tables had been spread with refreshments on the lawn, and at four o'clock Sir Nicholas Hannen, as Chairman of the Reception Committee, raised his glass, and, addressing the gathering, said:—

"Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sure you will all join with me in extending to Messrs. Fraser, Lunn, and Lowe a most hearty welcome to Shanghai. I don't want to make a long speech. I only want to say enough to convince these gentlemen how glad we are to see them safe here, how much we admire their pluck, determination, and endurance, and how pleased we shall be if we are able to make their stay in Shanghai a happy one. Ladies and Gentlemen, here is their health. Three cheers for Messrs. Fraser, Lunn, and Lowe."

The three cheers and a tiger were very heartily given and the three travellers bowed their acknowledgments. Then Sir Nicholas proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. Hogg, with thanks to them for their kindness in throwing open their beautiful grounds, and again three cheers and a tiger were heartily given. Preparations were then made to escort the cyclists to Shanghai, and the procession was quickly formed. Two members of the Reception Committee, Messrs. Craddock and Firth, preceded by a couple of mounted police, led the way. Then came Messrs. Fraser, Lunn, and Lowe, riding abreast, and behind them one hundred and twenty-four Shanghai cyclists, ladies and gentlemen, riding two and two. As the procession passed along the Jessfield, Sinza, Carter, and Bubbling Well Roads, other cyclists joined in, until before the Maloo was reached, there were some two hundred wheelmen and wheelwomen riding behind the globe-girdlers. Down the Maloo the footpavements were crowded with Chinese who took the greatest interest in the exhibition, and with this escort Messrs. Fraser, Lunn, and Lowe reached their quiet retreat at the Astor House.

They left Soochow, as already noted, on Tuesday, pedalling quietly along the bank of the Creek, and sleeping in their boat, which they found uncommonly cold. They propose to stay in Shanghai about a fortnight.—*N. C. Daily News*.

### THE RUSSIANISATION OF KOREA.

M. Alexeieff has taken charge of the Korean finances and one of his first acts was the appointment of six Russian-speaking Koreans from Vladivostok. All arrears of salary have been paid to Korean officials and the money which remained in the Treasury has all been used by the King, so that it is now empty. The Government is consequently contemplating a new loan which will doubtless be obtained from Russia. As yet Mr. Alexeieff has not interfered with the Customs, which is doubtless due to the fact that there is as yet no one to take the place of those whom it is intended to dismiss. It is, however, only a question of time.

It is now known that the appointment of M. Alexeieff to the control of the Korean finances was arranged soon after the King had fled for

refuge to the Russian Legation. It therefore seems that M. de Speyer is merely carrying out the policy inaugurated by his predecessor in accordance with instructions from St. Petersburg.—*N. C. Daily News* correspondent.

### FORMOSA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Twatutia, 23rd December.

Dr. C. Merz, the very efficient and popular Consul for Germany, departed from Formosa on the 20th for Amoy, where he will serve as the future guardian of German interests. While we must congratulate the doctor upon having secured a more pleasant post and more agreeable and homelike residence for his family, yet we regret that our little settlement at Twatutia should lose the genial hospitality so freely extended by Doctor Merz. Mrs. Merz, and her sister Miss Firms. Bachelor parties will now perforce replace the pleasant evenings at the German Consulate. Dr. Müller is in charge of the Consulate pending the arrival of Mr. Reinsdorf, former Acting Consul at Amoy, who, it is reported, will have charge of the Formosan Consulate for the present.

It is perhaps not generally known that the finest building in the island is the German Consulate at Twatutia. It is on the bank of the Tamsui river, conveniently located and a great ornament to the city. The English Consulate is established down the river at Hobe, although a Consular office has been opened at Twatutia. It is reported that the English Consul desires to establish the Consulate here and is looking for suitable quarters. The Spanish and French Consuls would also establish themselves permanently here if suitable quarters could be obtained, but notwithstanding the construction of many new buildings there is still a great demand for houses, which can be rarely satisfied and only then at an excessively high rental.

The report published in some Shanghai paper from an Amoy correspondent regarding the great preparations the Japanese are making to defend the island (presumably against the French) and the large numbers of transports carrying troops to Formosa is a pure canard. There are no preparations out of the ordinary in progress and no transports are arriving with troops—it might be well for the internal peace of the island if there were. The report regarding the French and Formosa does not appear to have disturbed the Japanese in the least. Should the French ever come to Formosa it will be necessary that they come better equipped than the last French expedition to the island.

The country is very much disturbed, reports of attacks by armed bands of robbers coming in nearly every day. Travel in the interior is unsafe at present. Not much improvement can be expected until after China New Year.

### CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

The gunboats *On Lau* and *To-nan*, which were despatched for Yamchow to receive the Black Flag General by the order of the Viceroy some time ago, will arrive at Canton in a few days with the General on board. It is said that the General has hired a good number of soldiers in Yamchow.

In the explosion of the Tchang-bo Government Powder Factory, which occurred at 3 p.m. on the 17th instant, it has turned out that seven persons were killed and eighteen were severely injured. The officer in charge of the factory has been dismissed by the Viceroy for neglect of duty.

As has been repeatedly reported, famine has made its appearance in the prefectures of Loichow and Kin-chow, and many letters have been sent by the san-sz of the said districts to the Government and the charitable institutions asking assistance. A few days ago the gunboat *Nam-mo* was sent to the places in question carrying a charitable fund of ten thousand dollars.

A fire broke out on the 19th instant at 5 p.m. in San-chung-how, in Fatshan. Over one hundred wooden huts belonging to the boat people were completely destroyed. Most of the occupants of the huts were away at work at

the time and when they came back they found themselves homeless. They were compelled to cook their food and sleep in the street. Some kind people have raised a subscription to help them to rebuild their huts.

The Viceroy has granted permission for rice to be exported from Canton and the neighbouring districts to Macao, at the request of the Commissioner of Customs at Lappa.

On the 21st instant a junk with a heavy cargo of rice, trying to smuggle out from Canton, was seized at Mo-do-how, in the Canton river.

### HONGKONG.

Christmas was, as usual, quietly observed in Hongkong. For those who preferred to spend the holidays out of doors the beautiful weather enhanced the enjoyment, while indoors the temperature was cold enough to demand a cheerful fire in the rooms. On Christmas Eve the Chief Justice had an unpleasant duty to perform in sentencing three murderers to death. On the 22nd inst. His Excellency the Governor delivered a most interesting lecture at Government House, his subject being "Two small sketches of two great men." The two great men were Milton and Handel. On the following day the Band of the West Yorkshire Regiment gave a farewell concert at the City Hall. On Sunday the King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment arrived in the colony to take the place of the West Yorkshire Regiment, which leaves for Singapore on Saturday.

H.M.S. *Narcissus* left for the North on 21st December.

The Dairy Farm Company notifies that it has resumed business.

The C.P.R. steamer *Empress of China* made a quick run down from Shanghai in fifty hours.

A Chinaman was on 22nd Dec. fined \$100 for removing milk from an infected cattle shed in Kennedy Street.

On the 24th December Mrs. F. H. May gave her annual Christmas treat to the children of the members of the Police Force.

At the Police Court on 24th Dec. nineteen men were charged with gambling in a house at No. 45, Nullah Lane. The master was fined \$25 and the remainder \$2 each.

Although everyone recognises that there is a good deal of sham and hypocrisy about Christmas conventionalities, the sentencing of three men to death will strike most people as a particularly unpleasant incident for Christmas Eve. We should think the Chief Justice must have wished that the painful duty had fallen to his lot on some other day.

At the last rehearsal of the Philharmonic Society Mr. W. G. Bentley, A.R.C.M., was presented with a handsome silver loving cup as a token of the Society's appreciation of his services as its conductor. The presentation was made by the Hon. W. M. Goodman, who referred to the excellent work done by Mr. Bentley and the regret felt by the Society and the community at his departure and that of the West Yorkshire Band.

The hon. treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Ho Ngok Lan	\$50
"Canton"	50
Wong Chuk Yau	25
Ip Chuk Kai	15
Cheung Wo	3

An extraordinary general meeting of the Hongkong Football Club was held on 28th Dec. at the Victoria Recreation Club. The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, President of the Club, presided. A number of rules connected with the constitution and management of the Club were considered and ultimately were proposed for adoption by Mr. H. W. Slade, seconded by Mr. E. F. MacKay, and passed *nem. con.*

The German cruiser *Kaiserin Augusta* arrived on the 22nd December. This vessel was at Crete when Kiaochau was occupied and she was at once ordered out to join the German Asiatic squadron. She entered the Canal on the 23rd November, and has therefore taken twenty-nine days on the voyage out from that point. She is a first class cruiser built at Kiel in 1892. She left on the 26th December for Kiaochau.

There were 2,341 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 158 were Europeans.

The Hongkong branch of the Navy League is arranging a series of lectures upon matters which come within the scope of the objects of the League. The first lecture of the series will be given by Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C.

When the P. and O. mail steamer *Thames* arrived on Sunday afternoon, 6th Dec., she was flying the quarantine flag and she anchored in the quarantine ground. There was no case of sickness on board, however, and the vessel was granted free pratique by the Port Medical Officer. The *Thames* landed a suspected case of plague at Penang, and on arriving at Singapore the vessel was examined and then allowed to proceed to the wharf.

The West Yorkshire Regiment will embark on the *Jelunga* at ten o'clock on Saturday morning for Singapore. Invalids and details will proceed to England by the same vessel. The freight ship *Borneo* left London on the 27th November with artillery, engineers, and details for Hongkong. The freight ship *Shanghai* left London on the 11th December and will bring the 25th company from Singapore. On her return journey she will take away the 12th and 35th companies from Hongkong.

In connection with the Christmas festivities, the members of the Taikoo Club gave a dancing party in their Club Rooms on Saturday night, when a fairly large number of guests assembled. Dancing was indulged in from eight o'clock till midnight, a few songs being rendered before the dances by Messrs. Dalton, S. H. Somerton, Brown, and O'Connell. The rooms were very prettily decorated, and all the arrangements were carried out in a manner which reflected the highest credit upon the Committee—Messrs. J. J. Blake, R. Dickson, and R. Park.

The troopship *Jelunga*, with the 1st Battalion of the King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment, from Malta, arrived on Sunday morning, 26th Dec., and the Regiment was disembarked in the afternoon, proceeding at once into barracks. The following are the officers:—Lieutenant-Colonel J. Rowlandson, Major J. M. Gawne (second in command), Major W. H. Duffin, Major T. C. F. Somerville, Captain Godfrey L. Hibbert, Captain T. B. Dixon, Captain J. A. Paton, Captain D. M. McLauchlan, Lieut. H. Galloway, Lieut. and Adjutant J. H. Lloyd, Lieut. F. S. B. Johnson, Lieut. T. D. L. Whittington, Lieut. W. A. L. Lethbridge, Lieut. R. G. Parker, Lieut. J. H. Morrah, Lieut. R. E. R. Donajowski, Lieut. R. N. Dobson, Lieut. W. B. Malony, Lieut. S. R. Fletcher, Lieut. W. E. S. Woodgate, and Quarter-Master T. Batchelor (Hon. Lieut.). Colonel Rowlandson served in the South African war, 1879, and the Zulu campaign. Major Gawne also served in the South African war, 1879, and Zulu campaign, and also in the Bechuanaland expedition 1884-5. The following officers' wives accompany their husbands:—Mrs. Rowlandson, Mrs. Gawne, Mrs. Duffin and Mrs. Batchelor.

A letter from a Chinese correspondent appears in the *Chung Ngai San Po* in which the writer complains that since the abolition of the system of registration Hongkong has been overrun with brothels, to the great detriment of legitimate business. Cases of embezzlement have of late been of frequent occurrence, the explanation being that the shop foks, who dare not show their faces in public and open brothels for fear of being seen by their masters and friends, go secretly to the sly brothels, which in outward appearance are indistinguishable from family houses. Here they do not run much risk of being recognised and they are able to spend their masters' money without exciting suspicion. Another effect of the increase in the number of sly brothels is that the demand for house accommodation has caused a great increase in rents. The public health is also affected, as may be judged by the many sign boards seen at shop doors inviting those suffering from disease to enter and be cured. The noise of chui-mui playing is heard in the Chinese quarters the whole night through, and the behaviour of the girls in the streets is often scandalous. It is sincerely to be hoped, the correspondent says, that Mr. Fung Wa-chuen, the Chairman of the Directors of the Tung Wa Hospital, who is well acquainted with English, will try to explain to H.E. the Governor how the Chinese have been affected by the abolition of the registration system.

H.M.S. *Grafton*, which arrived on Monday afternoon from Singapore, has gone into dock at Kowloon. We hear that she is expected to leave for the North to-day or on Friday to join Admiral Buller.

An Indian was found in British Kowloon on the 15th instant without any visible means of subsistence. Hon. H. E. Wodehouse declared him a vagrant and sent him to the house of detention.

For stealing four blankets and an oil cloth, the property of the War Department, on the 21st instant, a Chinaman was on 23rd Dec. sentenced by the Police Magistrate to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

The Count d'Eu, with his son Prince Pierre of Orleans, who is an officer in the Austrian army, and Count de Bégassière, who are making a tour round the world, arrived at Shanghai from Japan on the 16th December.

The British steamer *Nanyang*, which arrived on 23rd Dec. from Singapore, reports that on the 22nd she passed a dismasted Wenchow junk at anchor in lat. 19.35 N., long. 114.02 E. The crew refused to leave her, but wanted to be towed to Hongkong.

A boy who was employed in the regimental canteen at Kowloon was on 28th Dec. sent to gaol for six months for stealing \$1 from the till. For some time past money has been missed from the canteen and the prisoner's arrest was the result of a watch which was kept on his movements.

The P. & O. mail steamer *Chusan*, which left Hongkong at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, the 14th December, did not arrive at Shanghai until 10 a.m. on Sunday, the 19th. The delay was due to rough weather and heavy seas on the way up. Part of the time, although her engines were going at full speed, she hardly made any headway at all, and on Saturday morning the weather was so foggy that the lights could not be discovered at a distance three miles away. The *Java*, which left two hours later than the *Chusan*, experienced similar weather and also took five days on the voyage.

We have received the time table of the Messageries Maritimes for 1898. The mail leaves Hongkong on Wednesday until the 2nd February and from the 12th February on Saturday, thus synchronising with the English mail. With a Saturday mail day the Good Friday holiday will necessarily cease to be observed as such, but possibly Easter Monday may take its place. The day of arrival of the French mails in Hongkong is alternately Tuesday and Saturday, the mail brought on to Colombo by the Australian steamer being allowed twenty-seven days to reach Hongkong while the direct steamers are allowed thirty days.

A special session of the Justices of the Peace was held at the Magistracy on 21st Dec. to consider the application of Jules Marcesse for a publican's license for the Travellers' Hotel, Nos. 12 and 13, Queen Victoria Street. Hon. H. E. Wodehouse presided and the only other Justice present was Mr. W. M. B. Arthur. Mr. E. J. Grist appeared for the applicant. The police report, which was read by Mr. Wodehouse, stated that the applicant had not held a licence before and in 1895 he was convicted and fined \$100 for selling liquors without a licence. Previous to that he had been suspected of illicitly distilling liquor. Mr. Grist asked the Justices to grant the application as Marcesse had been punished for his one offence and since then he had done no wrong. There was no evidence to prove that there was any ground for the suspicion entertained against him. If the application was refused the applicant would be deprived of his means of livelihood. During the past two years he had lived on his means. In reply to Mr. Wodehouse Mr. Arthur mentioned the fact that when the applicant was fined a very large quantity of chemicals and compounds of the value of \$400 were seized at his house at Pokfulam and that tended to show that there was a very extensive manufacture of unwholesome liquor at the place. Notice of appeal was lodged, but it was not proceeded with. There was ample evidence that the man had been engaged in the manufacture of those crude liquors to which so much attention had been drawn of late. The Justices refused to grant the application, Mr. Wodehouse expressing the opinion that it would be most improper to give the applicant a licence.

At the Police Court on 22nd Dec., Charles Dalton, a seaman, was charged with deserting from the British ship *Dramellian*, and that he, being a member of the crew of the American ship *St. Mark*, remained ashore after the departure of the said ship. For the first offence he was ordered to be sent on board, and for the second he was sentenced to one month's imprisonment with hard labour.

The reporters' seat in the Supreme Court is directly in front of the dock and behind the witness box. They do not mind that so much, but they distinctly object to be near prisoners who are filthily dirty. At least one of the prisoners being tried for murder has not had a wash perhaps since his arrest. We will not go into details, but those who saw him on 21st Dec. were disgusted with his actions and would like to have poured a tin of kerosine over his head. According to the prison regulations "the Superintendent shall enforce the highest possible degree of cleanliness in every part of the prison, in the persons of the prisoners, their clothes and bedding, &c.," while another rule states that prisoners awaiting trial "shall not be required to take a bath on reception if, on the application of the prisoner, the Superintendent shall decide that it is unnecessary, or the surgeon shall state that for medical reasons it is inadvisable." It is for medical reasons advisable that a prisoner covered with vermin should take a bath, whether he likes it or not.—All who had business in the Supreme Court on the 22nd were glad to notice that the prisoners charged with murder had since their last appearance been washed and shaved. Consequently there were no exciting hunts during the day. We hope that in future all prisoners will be cleansed before being placed in the dock of the Supreme Court.

## C. MMERICAL.

## TEA.

## EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao .....	5,782,225	6,058,521
Shanghai and Hankow ...	14,058,839	17,809,185
Foochow .....	12,349,891	12,510,514
Amoy .....	675,081	559,478
	32,826,036	36,967,698

## EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai .....	18,823,511	18,214,121
Amoy .....	12,277,312	16,380,778
Foochow .....	7,516,903	10,805,536
	38,617,726	45,430,438

## EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	19,462,293	22,949,123

## EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama .....	25,670,833	25,940,716
Kobe .....	15,050,463	13,519,658
	40,721,356	39,460,374

## SILK.

CANTON, 29th December.—Tsateles.—No business to report. Quotations are nominally unchanged. Re-reels.—A purchase of 29 bales No. 1 Grant was made at \$560. Filatures.—A fair demand has ruled for Lyons during the fortnight owing to decline of exchange. Dealers are now trying to secure higher prices and business is difficult owing to the firmness of holders. From prices paid we quote: \$750/710 for Kwan Shun Hang 11/13 and 13/15, \$720 for Kai Sun Cheong 13/15, \$710 for Wing Hing Lun 13/15, \$705 for Shing King Lun 11/13, \$700 for Kwong Ho 13/15, \$680 for How King Cheong 13/15, \$615 for Wai King Wo 18/20, \$600 for King Wo Cheong 18/22, \$600/570 for Bun 3me ordre 11/13 and 13/15. Short-reels have been in good enquiry. From prices paid we quote: \$725 for Po King Cheong 14/16, \$710 for Kum King Cheong 14/16, \$690 for Yee Wo Loong 15/16, \$680 for Man Po Sing, Yee Kwo, Yan Hing Cheong, Cheong Kee, and Hip Sam Choy 14/16. Waste.—Quiet with moderate transactions.

SHANGHAI, 24th December.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' circular).—London telegrams to 21st quote a firm market. Gold Kiln 9.74 and Blue Elephants 10.44. Raw Silk.—Settlements are on a moderate scale this week, but prices show firmness. About 200 bales Tsateles and 150 bales Taysams have been booked, mostly for immediate delivery, also fully 300 piculs Yellow Silks. Arrivals as per Customs Returns, 16th to 22nd current: 418 bales White, 59 piculs Yellow and 202 piculs Wild silks. Re-reels and Filatures.—Fully 500 bales of Hand Filatures have been settled, partly for December and partly for January delivery at quotations given below. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: to America 3,351 bales, to Continent 2,430 bales, to London 21 bales, and to Japan 8 bales. Waste Silk.—Continental buyers have been operating freely in the lower qualities, and settlements aggregate fully 2,500 piculs. Amongst the purchases are:—

1,600 piculs Long Shanghai	at Tls. 194
300 " Flosses No. 1	" 134
100 " Discharged Waste	" 12
250 " Honan Waste	" 36 to 60

Prices calculated by Maerten's Tables at 11 per cent; Exchange 2/83; Freight Tls. 7.80 per bale.

Tsateles—Blue Phoenix	Tls. 10.5
Three Pagoda	432 10.1
Taysam—Gr. Kahing Gold Goose 1	430 10.0
" " " MM	397 9.34
Yellow Silk—Mienchow 305 a 290 7 2 1/2	a 6 10 1/2
" Meeyang	325 7.8
" Wongyi	235 6.9
" Szechong 210 a 215 5 1/2	a 5 2 1/2
" Shantung Skeins Gold Dble. Al-	342 8.1
mon Flower No. 1	
Filature—Mayheny Croisee Ex No. 1, and	640 14.9
No. 2, ave. price	
" Flying Horse Croisee Ex No. 1 and	610 11.1
No. 2, ave. price	
" Mars Chop Croisee Ex No. 1 and	540 12.6
No. 2, ave. price	
" Bicycle Chop ordinary reel, No. 1,	560 12.11
No. 2 and No. 3, ave. price	
Wild Silk—Tussah Filature 8 Coccons Three	340 8.0
Joss Chop	210 5.1
Tussah Raw Market	

## EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	bales	bales
Shanghai .....	7,692	3,091
Canton .....	8,235	2,209
Yokohama .....	23,606	9,619
	38,933	14,919

## EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1897-98	1896-97
	bales	bales
Shanghai .....	36,493	31,630
Canton .....	16,748	16,650
Yokohama .....	14,596	7,159
	67,837	55,439

## CAMPHOR

HONGKONG, 30th December.—No change to report. Quotations for Formosa are nominally \$44.75 to \$45.00. Sales, 200 piculs.

## SUGAR

HONGKONG, 30th December.—The activity recently reported has given way to dulness, and prices are declining. Quotations are:—  
Sheklong, No. 1, White...\$7.30 to 7.33 per picul.  
do. " 2, White... 6.92 to 6.95 "  
Sheklong, No. 1, Brown... 4.70 to 4.74 "  
do. " 2, Brown... 4.60 to 4.62 "  
Swatow, No. 1, White...\$7.22 to 7.25 "  
do. " 2, White... 6.87 to 6.90 "  
Swatow, No. 1, Brown... 4.62 to 4.65 "  
do. " 2, Brown... 4.50 to 4.52 "  
Soochow Sugar Candy... 11.15 to 11.20 "  
Sheklong... 9.67 to 9.71 "

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Pyrrhus*, sailed on the 21st December. For London:—690 boxes tea, 45 cases bristles, 31 cases cigars, 98 cases chinaware, 50 cases palm-leaf fans, 7 cases bamboo-ware, 7 cases gongs, 83 cases blackwoodware, 4 cases curios, 1 case feathers, 7 cases coirhair, 4 cases orchids, 555 cases and 750 casks preserves, 1,409 bales hemp, 52 bales canes, 412 bags gum, 50 rolls mats, 45 packages shells, 647 packages crackers and 6 packages sundries. For London and/or Manchester:—50 bales waste silk. For London and/or Hamburg and/or Havre:—10 cases aniseed oil. For Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For Liverpool:—3

cases cigars and 1,610 bales hemp. For Glasgow:—2 cases curios. For Hamburg:—30 cases palm-leaf fans. For Beyrouth:—50 packages tea. For Smyrna:—10 packages tea.

Per P & O steamer *Canton*, sailed on the 22nd December. For Buenos Aires:—200 packages tea. For Hamburg:—416 packages tea. For London:—7 cases cigars from Manila, 10 bales feathers from Foochow, 2,497 rolls mats and matting, 96 cases chinaware, 3 cases blackwoodware, 4 cases feathers, 1 case silk piece goods, 5 packages sundries, 140 packages and 1,002 boxes tea (21,042 lbs.).

## OPIMUM.

HONGKONG, 29th December.—Bengal.—There has been an improvement in prices owing to the fall in the exchange on India. Current quotations are \$705 for New Patna, \$707 1/2 for New Benares, and \$730 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—A further advance has taken place in rate. The following are the latest figures:—  
New.....\$710 with allowance of 0 to 4 cts.  
Old (23 yrs.) \$660 " 1/2 to 2 "  
" (15 " ) \$780 " 0 to 2 "

Persian.—Prices have kept steady owing to a demand from Formosa. Quotations close at \$490 to \$500 for Old and at \$510 to \$520 for Paper-wrapped, according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna .....	1,850 chests.
New Benares .....	240 "
Old Benares .....	630 "
Malwa .....	300 "
Persian .....	950 "

## COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIMUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1897.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Dec. 22	692 1/2	—	725	740	760	780
Dec. 23	690	—	725	740	760	780
Dec. 24	697 1/2	—	730	740	760	780
Dec. 25	702 1/2	—	730	740	760	780
Dec. 26	702 1/2	—	730	740	760	780
Dec. 27	702 1/2	—	730	740	760	780
Dec. 28	702 1/2	—	705	730	740	760
Dec. 29	705	—	707 1/2	730	740	760

## COTTON.

HONGKONG, 29th December.—Sales have been effected in both old and new crops. Stock, about 950 bales.

Bombay .....	\$16.00 to 16.75 p. pl.
Kurrachee .....	16.00 to 16.50 "
Bengal, Rangoon, and	17.50 to 18.60 "
Dacca .....	21.00 to 21.50 "
Shanghai and Japanese...	21.00 to 21.50 "
Tungchow and Ningpo...	— to — "
Madras (Best) .....	— to — "

Sales: 1,050 bales Bengal, Rangoon and Dacca.

## RICE.

HONGKONG, 30th December.—The market has steadied again and prices are a shade firmer. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary .....	\$2.25 to 2.28
" Round, good quality .....	2.60 to 2.65
" Long .....	2.78 to 2.82
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ..	2.25 to 2.30
" Garden, " No. 1 ..	2.80 to 2.85
" White .....	3.70 to 3.75
" Fine Cargo .....	3.95 to 4.10

## COALS.

HONGKONG, 29th December.—Sales of 1,700 tons Cardiff at \$18.75 and 20,000 tons Japanese at \$9 to \$10 1/4 are reported. Market fairly steady.

Quotations are:—  
Cardiff ..... \$18.00 to 19.00 ex ship, nominal. || Australian ..... | \$10.00 to 11.00 small and lump. |
Milki Lump .....	9.00 to 10.25 nominal.
and Small .....	
Moji Lump .....	7.75 to 10.00 ex ship, steady

## MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG 29th December.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.—30 bales No. 6 at \$73, 630 bales No. 10 at \$75 to \$81, 73 bales No. 12 at \$76 to \$80, 280 bales No. 16 at \$83 to \$90, 875 bales No. 20 at \$84 to \$96. Japanese Yarn.—155 bales No. 16 at \$85.50 to \$87, 100 bales No. 20 at \$86 to \$89.50. Grey Shirtings.—500 pieces 10 lbs. Flower Vase at \$3.95, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. 2 Fish at \$2.85. White Shirtings.—500 pieces Gold Goose at \$4.30, 500 pieces No. 3 at \$3.50. T-Cloths.—600 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Hunter and Stag C. C. at \$3.05, 300 pieces 8 1/2 lbs.

X. M. at \$2.37½, 1,500 pieces 7lbs. Silver Lion No. 2 at \$1.85, 750 pieces 7lbs. Gold Dragon at \$2.32½, 300 pieces 8lbs. Mexican V. V. at \$2.90, 375 pieces 7lbs. Red Stag at \$2.37½.

COTTON YARN.		per bale	
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.	70.00	to	100.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24	108.00	to	115.00
„ 22 to 24	110.00	to	115.00
„ 28 to 32	121.00	to	126.00
„ 38 to 42	130.00	to	138.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.		per piece	
Grey Shirtings—6lbs.	1.70	to	1.80
7lbs.	2.00	to	2.15
8.1 lbs.	2.45	to	3.15
9 to 10 lb.	3.35	to	4.10
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.35	to	2.55
58 to 60 „	2.70	to	3.40
64 to 66 „	3.50	to	4.35
Fine „	4.30	to	7.10
Book-folds.	3.75	to	5.60
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.65	to	1.30
T. Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y.	1.50	to	1.70
7lbs. (32 „)	1.85	to	2.10
6lbs. (32 „), Mexs.	1.65	to	1.80
7lbs. (32 „)	2.05	to	2.75
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	2.30	to	3.15
Drills, English—40 yds, 13½ to 14lbs	3.70	to	5.10

FANCY COTTONS		per piece	
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 7lbs.	1.50	to	4.00
Brocades—Dyed	3.90	to	5.00
Damasks	0.12	to	0.16
Chintzes—Assorted	3.08	to	0.14
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.20	to	0.30
Velveteens—18 in.	0.16	to	0.18

Woolens		per yard	
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.55	to	1.35
German	1.15	to	1.50
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.	1.15	to	5.25

Long Ells—Scarlet		per piece	
Assorted	6.50	to	9.00
Camlets—Assorted	12.00	to	32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted	11.00	to	20.00
Orleans—Plain	7.00	to	8.50

Blankets—8 to 12lbs.		per pair	
	5.50	to	12.00

METALS		per picul	
Iron—Nail Rod	4.20	to	—
Square, Flat Round Bar	4.25	to	—
Swedish Bar	5.90	to	—
Small Round Rod	4.50	to	—
Hoop	4.75	to	—
Wire 15/25	8.75	to	—
Old Wire Rope	1.50	to	3.00
Lead, L. B. and Hole Chop	8.25	to	—
Australian	8.25	to	—
Yellow Metal—Muntz, 14/28 oz.	29.00	to	—
Vivian's, 14/20 oz.	28.75	to	—
Elliot's, 14/20 oz.	28.75	to	—
Composition Nails	—	to	—
Japan Copper, Slabs	20.50	to	—
Tiles	20.00	to	—
Tin	—	to	—

Tin-Plates		per box.	
	5.80	to	—
Steel ½ to ¾		per cwt. case	
	5.50	to	—

SUNDRIES		per picul	
Quicksilver	126.00	to	—
Window Glass		per box	
	4.00	to	—
Kerosene Oil		per 10-gal. case	
	1.93	to	—

SHANGHAI, 23rd December.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report).—With the influx of money has come a better enquiry and the Tientsin merchants, who have the needful coin to invest, are turning their attention to any cheap parcels that may be picked up from stock. Holders of American goods appear to be the most willing sellers, of Sheetings especially, and a fair quantity has been settled for prompt clearance, or at least payment, as they probably will not be delivered for some time yet, and then only put into the steamer Godowns. In English makes the enquiry has not been so eagerly met, Importers, as a rule, being more disposed to hold for replacing cost, which in the majority of cases is considerably out, owing to the big difference still existing in the forward rates of exchange to those now current. There is certainly a better feeling, and no doubt when the market has been sufficiently exploited and "cumshaw" parcels are cleared off more adequate prices will

be offered. The immediate future of the trade is, without doubt, sufficiently precarious, complicated as it may be at any moment by political events, to justify these sales, cheap as they appear, especially when they are for prompt cash, and of course a great deal depends on what exchange had been secured. A little has been done again for forward delivery in special cloth and chops but for the ordinary indent business the difference in exchange stops the way, for if present rates were only available it would be quite possible to connect with Manchester at prices now offered. The market there, however, appears to be more than steady, supported by a better demand for India. Manufacturers also seem to be well engaged, as enquiries from this have elicited the fact that with a great many of the prominent makes delivery cannot be obtained now until March, or even April. Better prices have been obtained at the Auctions this week for both Cottons and Woollens. The outside markets are quiet, but clearances have improved somewhat, though there is some difficulty in financing shipments to Hankow apparently. Yarns have further improved during the week, the sales of Indian showing an advance of one taal, and Japanese of two taals a bale. Business has also been resumed in local Yarns, after an interval of over a month, at prices which show a decline of about 5 per cent. Cotton is rather firmer on account of purchases for Japan, best foreign machine ginned being quoted Tls. 14.80.

METALS, 24th December.—(From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co.'s Report).—The Metal market has been lifeless during the week, though a few holders were offering below market rates for cash with no tak rs. Nothing can be expected until after Chinese New Year at least. The following small contracts have been completed:—50 tons Old Boiler Plates at 89s c. i. f.; 100 tons Old Cart Tyres at 105s c. i. f.

#### JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 29th December.—The Christmas holidays have materially interfered with business and there is but little to report. Rates have ruled steady without much variation and close with an upward tendency.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghais have ruled quiet with only small sales at 176 per cent prem. cash and 185 for March delivery. The latest home quotation is £41 10s., a drop of £1, doubtless due to the somewhat unsettled state of politics in the Far East. Nationals have changed hands at \$22½, and Bank of Chinas remain unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Cantons have changed hands at \$155½ cum dividend payable on the 3rd January, and at the equivalent rate of \$150½ ex. dividend. Yangtszes are on offer at the reduced rate of \$140 without finding buyers. There is nothing further to report under this heading.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have changed hands at \$365 and Chinas at \$106.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have changed hands in small lots at \$27½ and later in somewhat large parcels at \$28, closing firm with buyers at \$28½. Other stocks under this heading remain unchanged and without business, but Indo-Chinas are enquired for at \$51.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have ruled somewhat quieter at \$159 and \$158 with small sales. At time of closing, however, the market is stronger with sales at \$159 and \$160. Luzons are still neglected and quiet at quotation.

MINING.—Punjoms have changed hands at \$5.50, \$5.65, \$5.75, and \$5.85, cum new call, for Ordinaries and at \$1.50 for Preferences. Jebebus have again been negotiated at \$2 and Charbonnages at \$110. Olivers have found small buyers at \$19 for A. and at \$7, \$7½, and \$7½ for B. shares. Raubs have ruled steady to strong, with sales at \$21½ and \$22, closing at \$22 with buyers. Great Easterns and Caledonians have found buyers at \$3 for \$2½ paid up, closing steady to strong; the latest written news from the mine states the discovery of two new reefs with good indications, which, however, it is not proposed to develop by sinking new shafts, as they can in all probability be got at from the shafts which are now in course of sinking.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have improved to 222 per cent. prem. with small sales and a steady market at that rate; shares are enquired for at equivalent rates forward, but the demand

is not met. Kowloon Wharves remain unchanged and without business. Wanchais could be placed at \$41.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have changed hands in small lots at \$74. Hotels are enquired for at \$50 without leading to business and sales are reported at \$50½ and \$51. West Points and Humphreys unchanged and neglected.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands after sales at \$33½ and \$33½ (old issue) have advanced to \$34, whilst the new issue has been done at \$18½ and \$18½. There is nothing else to report under this heading.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		[\$345, sal. & h. prem.]
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	176 ½
China & Japan, prf.	\$5	nominal
Do. ordinary	\$3 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred	\$1	£5. 5s., buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	\$8	\$22½, sales
Founders Shares	\$1	\$22½
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	\$1	\$5
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$3.75, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$160, sal. & buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 100
Hongkong	\$20	17, sellers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 110
Lan Kung Yow	Tls. 100	Tls. 101
Soych e	Tls. 500	Tls. 530
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 90
Dairy Farm Co.	\$5	\$3½
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$29
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$34, sales & buyers
Do. New Issue	\$2½	\$18½, buyers
H. & China Bakery	\$50	\$33
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$120
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$10, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	112
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$51, sales
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$113
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$58, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$170, sales & sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$222 p. ct. prem. = \$402½, sales & sel.
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$155½, sales
China Fire	\$20	\$106, sales
China Traders'	\$25	\$70, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$365, sales
North-China	\$25	Tls. 148, sellers
Straits	\$20	\$17, sellers
Union	\$25	\$229, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$140, sellers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$74, sales & sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$9.25, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$19
West Point Building	\$40	\$21½
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$37, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$110, sales
Great E. & C. donian	\$	\$6, sellers
Do. Do.	\$2½	\$3, sales & buyers
Jebebus	\$5	\$2, sales & sellers
New Balmoral	\$1	\$1.40, sal. & sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.50, sellers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$19
Do. B.	\$2½	\$7½, sales & buyers
Punjoni	\$4	\$5.85, cum call sal.
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.40, buyers
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$22, sales & buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$10	\$18, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$76, sellers
China Mutual Ord.	\$5	\$2 1½s. buyers
Do. Preference	\$10	\$7 10s. buyers
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$57, buyers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$28½, sales & buyers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$51, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$2	\$2, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$2, sellers
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$41, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12

J. V. Y. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 24th December.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—An increasing lightness of money has checked business. There is not much change in rates to note. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. Shares have been placed for delivery cash and on the 31st December at 175 per cent. premium, and for the 31st March at 184 per cent. premium. There is no change to report in other Bank shares. Marine Insurance.—No business reported. North Chinas are wanted at Tls. 200. Yangtszes are weak with sellers. Fire Insurance.—No local business reported. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N.

shares has been placed at Tls. 37½ for the 31st current, at Tls. 39½ for the 31st March, and Tls. 3½ for the 30th April. Sugar Companies.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares are offering at Tls. 36. China Sugar Refining shares have been sold at 160/161 cash, and \$166 for the 31st March. Luzon shares are weak at \$40. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Boyd & Co. shares have been placed at Tls. 182½. Shares in S. C. Farnham & Co. have been sold at Tls. 170 and Tls. 165. Shanghai Dock shares have been placed at Tls. 86 and Tls. 85 cash, and Tls. 86 for the end of the month. Industrial.—Ewo Cotton Mill shares were sold, and are offering, at Tls. 100. International shares at Tls. 110 cash and for the 31st current. Laou-kung-mow shares at Tls. 101. Soy Chee shares at Tls. 540, and Yab Loong shares, with Tls. 70 paid up, at Tls. 60. Shanghai Rice Mill shares were placed at Tls. 30. China Flour Mill shares changed hands and are now offering, at Tls. 66. Tug and Cargo Boats.—Shanghai Cargo Boat shares were sold, and are offering, at Tls. 190. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Waterworks shares are offering at Tls. 305. Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were sold, and are wanted, at Tls. 82 cash, with buyers for March at Tls. 90. Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares were placed for cash at Tls. 265, Tls. 275, and yesterday on receipt of a telegram from the State, at Tls. 300 and Tls. 350 for cash. For March and May delivery business was done at Tls. 400. Loans.—Shanghai Land Investment Company's 5 per cent. Debentures were parted with at Tls. 95, and there are a few offering on the same terms. Quotations are:—

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—\$343.75.

Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited. deferred shares.—\$5.

Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, ordinary shares.—Nominal.

National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$23.

National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—\$23.

Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$23.

China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$70.

North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 200.00.

Yangtze Insee. Assocn., Ltd.—\$140.

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$157½.

Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$18.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$367½.

China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$107.

Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$28.

Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 37.50.

Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$58.

China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co. pref. shares.—Tls. 52.00.

Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 36.00.

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$101.

Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$40.

Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Tls. 250.

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$41.

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$1.30.

Jejebu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$2.

Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$22.

Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.

Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 185.00.

S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 165.00.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$102½.

Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 116.00.

Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$60.

Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. (fully paid)—Tls. 90.00.

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$75.

Kowloon Land & Building Co., Ltd.—\$19.

Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$9½.

Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 225.00.

Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 92.00.

Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 100.00.

International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 110.00.

Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.—Tls. 101.00.

Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 540.00.

Shanghai Ice Company—Tls. 120.00.

Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 350.00.

Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 110.00.

Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 190.00.

Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 190.00.

Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 305.00.

Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 82.00.

Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 350.00.

Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 76.00.

J. Llewellyn Co., Limited.—\$60.00.

Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$38.50.

A. S. Watson Co., Limited.—\$12.00.

Hell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$5.

Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$10.

#### TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 29th December.—Since our last report the volume of business transacted has been about equal to that of the previous fortnight, rates coast-

wise show a decline all round, and are not expected to improve until after the Chinese New Year holidays (22nd January). Several steamers have been fixed on time at very fair rates and further suitable medium-sized boats with cargo ports are wanted.

From Saigon there is no enquiry for ready tonnage to Hongkong or Japan.

From Bangkok the quotation is nominally 21 cents outside and 26 cents inside the bar.

Japan coal freights remain dull at \$1.65 to Hongkong and \$2.50 to Singapore. Mororan to Hongkong, tonnage is wanted at \$2.50 per ton.

Sailing tonnage.—The American ship *Standard*, 1,493 tons, has been settled at home to load hence to Baltimore. For Callao a small carrier has been taken at about 25s. per 50 cubic feet; there is no enquiry for New York.

There are eight vessels disengaged in port, registering 7,948 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

*Standard*—American ship, 1,493 tons, Hongkong and Baltimore, settled at home.

*West York*—British barque, 688 tons, Hongkong and Callao, £1,250.

*Tailee*—German steamer, 939 tons, one port Java and Hongkong, 22½ cents per picul.

*Kweilin*—British steamer, 1,062 tons, Saigon and one port Java, 24 cents per picul.

*China*—German steamer, 1,271 tons, Saigon and Singapore, 16 cents per picul.

*Dante*—German steamer, 1,32 tons, Saigon and Singapore, 17 cents per picul.

*Knitsberg*—German steamer, 647 tons, Saigon and Singapore, 17 cents per picul.

An Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer, 9,900 tons rice Saigon and Kobe, 35 cents per picul.

An Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer 2,500 tons rice Saigon and Yokohama, 36 cents per picul.

*Wong Koi*—British steamer, 1,115 tons, Mororan and Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton.

*Hainan*—German steamer, 741 tons, Moji and Hongkong, \$1.60 per ton.

*Hansa*—German steamer, 1,253 tons, Moji and Hongkong, \$1.65 per ton.

*Jacob Christensen*—Norwegian steamer, 1,888 tons, Kuchinotzu and Hongkong, \$1.65 per ton.

*Germania*—German steamer, 1,775 tons, Kuchinotzu and Hongkong, \$1.67½ per ton.

*Fausany*—British steamer, 1,410 tons, Kuchinotzu and Hongkong, \$1.65 per ton.

*Toyo Maru*—Japanese steamer, 1,321 tons, Kuchinotzu and Hongkong, \$1.65 per ton.

*Holstein*—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Swatow and Saigon, \$3,000 lump sum.

*Hansa*—German steamer, 1,253 tons, Hongkong and Kobe, \$5,200 lump sum.

*Terrier*—Norwegian steamer, 1,008 tons, Hongkong and Kobe, 17 cents per picul.

*Tordenskjold*—Norwegian steamer, 904 tons, Hongkong to Swatow, \$2 per ton.

*Cosmopolit*—German steamer, 671 tons, Hongkong to Swatow, \$2 per ton.

*Tordenskjold*—Norwegian steamer, 904 tons, Hongkong to Hongkong, \$1.50 per ton.

An Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer, Hongkong to Hongkong, \$1.50 per ton.

*Esang*—British steamer, 1,127 tons, Bangkok and Hongkong, 23 cents and 2½ cents per picul.

*Dagmar*—Norwegian steamer, 921 tons, Iloilo and Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.

*Hermes*—Norwegian steamer, 849 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$8,000 per month.

*Loyal*—German steamer, 1,237 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$6,000 per month.

*Hansa*—German steamer, 1,253 tons, monthly, 4/2 months, \$5,900 per month.

*Daphne*—German steamer, 1,290 tons, monthly, 9 months, \$6,850 per month.

*Terrier*—Norwegian steamer, 1,008 tons, monthly, 11 months, \$6,250 per month.

#### EXCHANGE.

WEDNESDAY, 29th December.

##### ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer ..... 1/11½

Bank Bills, on demand ..... 1/11½

Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight ..... 1/11½

Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight ..... 1/11½

Credits, at 4 months' sight ..... 2/00

Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight ..... 2/0½

##### ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand ..... 2.48

Credits, at 4 months' sight ..... 2.52½

##### ON GERMANY.—

On demand ..... 2.01

##### ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand ..... 47½

Credits, 60 days' sight ..... 48½

##### ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer ..... 149½

Bank, on demand ..... 150

##### ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer ..... 149½

Bank, on demand ..... 150

##### ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight ..... 74½

Private, 30 days' sight ..... 75½

##### ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand ..... 2½ % pm.

##### ON MANILA.—

On demand ..... 5 % pm.

##### ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand ..... par

SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate ..... 10.00

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael ..... 52.50

#### VESSELS ON THE PERTH

For LONDON.—*Myrmidon* (str.), *Malacca* (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—*New York*, *Gaelic* (str.).

City of Rio de Janeiro (str.).

For NEW YORK.—*Gerard C. Tobey*, *Yarrowdale* (str.).

Port Adelaide (str.).

For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of China* (str.).

For BREMEN.—*Prinz Heinrich* (str.).

*Darmstadt* (str.)

For BALTIMORE.—*Standard*.

For PORTLAND.—*Mogul* (str.).

For AUSTRALIA.—*Yamashiro Maru* (str.), *Taiyuan* (str.).

For MARSEILLES.—*Hakata Maru* (str.), *Salazie* (str.).

For VICTORIA.—*Columbia* (str.).

#### SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST

MAIL.

#### HONGKONG.

ARRIVALS.

December—  
22, Tungechow, British str., from Shanghai.  
22, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Canton.  
22, Kaiserin Augusta, Ger. cr., from S'pore.  
22, Bellona, German str., from Moji.  
22, Dagmar, Norwegian str., from Wuhu.  
22, Peiyang, German str., from Chinkiang.  
22, Laos, French str., from Marseilles.  
22, Hoibow, British str., from Chinkiang.  
22, Guthrie, British str., from Melbourne.  
22, Jason, British str., from Amoy.  
23, Fushun, Chinese str., from Canton.  
23, Riojun Maru, Japanese str., from Seattle.  
23, Pectan, British str., from Moji.  
23, Namyong, British str., from Singapore.  
23, Tritos, German str., from Saigon.  
24, Phra Chom Klao, Brit. str., from Bangkok.  
24, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.  
24, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.  
24, Oslo, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.  
24, Anping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
24, Taiwan, British str., from Chinkiang.  
24, Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.  
24, Whampoa, British str., from Canton.  
24, Benedi, British str., from Moji.  
24, Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.  
24, Lienshing, British str., from Chinkiang.  
24, Propontis, British str., from Moji.  
24, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.  
25, Ask, Danish str., from Haiphong.  
25, Donar, German str., from Mauritius.  
25, Changsha, British str., from Sydney.  
25, Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., from Swatow.  
25, Choysang, British str., from Canton.  
25, Polyphemus, British str., from Liverpool.  
25, Fuping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
25, Foochow, British str., from Chinkiang.  
25, Nanyang, German str., from Coast Ports.  
26, N. Novgorod, Rus. vol. str., from V'stock.  
26, Hunan, British str., from Shanghai.  
26, Sikh, British str., from Shanghai.  
26, Progress, German str., from Haiphong.  
26, Taishun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
26, Ceylon, British str., from London.  
26, Jelunga, British troopship, from Southampton.  
26, Thames, British str., from Bombay.  
26, Chingping, Chinese str., from Tientsin.  
26, Chusan, German str., from Moji.  
26, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.  
26, Letimbro, Italian str., from Bombay.  
26, Mogul, British str., from Portland (Or.)  
27, Asosan Maru, Japanese str., from Saigon.  
27, Rosetta, British str., from Yokohama.  
27, Tungechow, British str., from Canton.  
27, Tordenskjold, Norw. str., from Hongay.  
27, Esang, British str., from Bangkok.  
27, Grafton, British cruiser, from Singapore.  
27, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.  
27, Peiyang, German str., from Canton.  
27, Szechuen, British str., from Chinkiang.  
28, Arratoon Apcar, British str., from C'utta.

28, Hoihow, British str., from Canton.  
 28, Lyderhorn, Norw. str., from Singapore.  
 28, City of Rio de Janeiro, Amr. str., from San Francisco.  
 28, Chusan, British str., from Shanghai.  
 28, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.  
 28, Haimun, British str., from Taiwanfoo.  
 28, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from Kutchinotzu.  
 28, Hsinchi, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
 28, Cosmopolit, German str., from Amoy.  
 28, Idzumi Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.  
 28, Auping, Chinese str., from Canton.  
 28, Empress of China, Brit. str., from V'couver.  
 28, Kansu, British str., from Chinkiang.  
 28, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Hongay.  
 29, Ingraban, German str., from Mauritius.  
 29, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.  
 29, Wosang, British str., from Chinkiang.  
 29, Lienshing, British str., from Canton.  
 29, Fuping, Chinese str., from Canton.  
 29, Oslo, Norwegian str., from Canton.  
 29, Hupeh, British str., from Java.  
 29, Taiyuan, British str., from Japan.

## December— DEPARTURES.

22, Empress of Japan, Brit. str., for V'couver.  
 22, Braemar, British str., for Tacoma.  
 22, Canton, British str., for London.  
 22, Knivsberg, German str., for Saigon.  
 22, Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.  
 22, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 22, Taichow, British str., for Bangkok.  
 22, Volute, British str., for Calcutta.  
 22, Wongkoi, British str., for Yokohama.  
 22, Peiyang, German str., for Canton.  
 22, Tungchow, British str., for Canton.  
 23, Hoihow, British str., for Canton.  
 23, Drumeltan, British ship, for New York.  
 23, Dagmar, Norwegian str., for Canton.  
 23, Laos, French str., for Shanghai.  
 23, Triumph, German str., for Pakhoi.  
 23, Hermes, Norwegian str., for Hongay.  
 23, Centaur, British str., for Bangkok.  
 23, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.  
 23, Frejr, Danish str., for Pakhoi.  
 23, Posidon, Austrian str., for Kobe.  
 23, Radnorshire, British str., for Nagasaki.  
 23, Tordenskjold, Norw. str., for Hongay.  
 24, Jason, British str., for Singapore.  
 24, Yamaguchi Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.  
 24, Krim, Norwegian str., for Hongay.  
 24, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.  
 24, Kingsing, British str., for Shanghai.  
 24, Kweiyang, British str., for Iloilo.  
 24, Mongkut, British str., for Bangkok.  
 24, Sagami Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.  
 24, Suisang, British str., for Calcutta.  
 24, Tokio Maru, Jap. str., for Australia.  
 24, Whampoa, British str., for Chinkiang.  
 24, Yayeyama Maru, Jap. str., for Taiwan.  
 24, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.  
 24, Taiwan, British str., for Canton.  
 25, Hansa, German str., for Kobe.  
 25, Oslo, Norwegian str., for Canton.  
 25, Anping, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 25, Lienshing, British str., for Canton.  
 25, Pectan, British str., for Manila.  
 26, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.  
 26, Namjong, British str., for Amoy.  
 26, Nanyo Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.  
 26, Chowfa, British str., for Bangkok.  
 26, Bellona, German str., for Singapore.  
 26, Germania, German str., for Kobe.  
 26, Mount Tabor, British str., for Kobe.  
 26, Toyo Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.  
 26, Foochow, British str., for Canton.  
 26, Fuping, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 26, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 26, Phra Nang, British str., for Yokohama.  
 26, Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., for Swatow.  
 26, Wuotan, German str., for Saigon.  
 26, Kaiserin Augusta, Ger. cr., for Shantung.  
 27, Nijui Novgorod, Rus. str., for Singapore.  
 27, Thames, British str., for Shanghai.  
 27, Hunan, British str., for Canton.  
 27, Taishun, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 28, Sikh, British str., for New York.  
 28, Polyphemus, British str., for Shanghai.  
 28, Chingping, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 28, Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.  
 28, Asosan Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.  
 28, Ceylon, British str., for Shanghai.  
 28, Szechuen, British str., for Canton.  
 28, Optic, British str., for San Francisco.  
 28, Guthrie, British str., for Kobe.  
 28, Hoihow, British str., for Chinkiang.  
 28, Nanyang, German str., for Swatow.  
 28, Tungchow, British str., for Shanghai.

29, Ask, Danish str., for Hoihow.  
 29, Amoy, German str., for Kobe.  
 29, Peiyang, German str., for Shanghai.  
 29, Bygdo, Norw. str., for Canton.  
 29, Phra Chom Klao, British str., for Bangkok.  
 29, Kansu, British str., for Canton.  
 29, Hsinchi, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 29, Petrel, Amr. g.-bt., for Canton.  
 29, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.  
 29, Hinsang, British str., for Java.  
 29, Tordenskjold, Norw. str., for Hongay.  
 29, Wosang, British str., for Canton.

## PASSENGER LIST.

## ARRIVED.

Per *Sanuki Maru*, from Yokohama, &c., Messrs. Kornosky, Gilmour, Vaughan, Shinahana, Seaborne, Lancaster, Bishop, McMurray, Johnstone, Plotz, Dowling, Mr. and Mrs. Knight, Mrs. and Miss Prout.

Per *Canton*, from Yokohama for London, Messrs. James Clapperton, Robert Ferguson, George Lang, and Edward Hustly; from Kobe for Hongkong, Mr. C. Baillargeon; from Shanghai for Hongkong, Mr. R. C. Diferderfer; for London, Mr. C. Reynolds.

Per *Tokio Maru*, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Jones.

Per *Tungchow*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Fullerton.

Per *Guthrie*, from Australia, Mrs. Fearon and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Hill and 2 children, Commander Francisco Diniz.

Per *Laos*, for Hongkong from Marseilles, Mrs. Ruff, Rs. Gs. Colomb, Delaine, Gafuel, and Monier, Mrs. Ricco and infant, Messrs. G. L. Hansen and Guerrier, Miss d'Abbadie, Mr. Jack, Mr. and Mrs. de St. Mathurin, and Mr. H. Guerrier; from Singapore, Mr. Pinto Basli, Mrs. Bianco; from Saigon, Messrs. Lagarde, L. N. Leafe, Frugier, Pierstorsky, Do Nang, Maitre, Leprince, Horwitz, and Guillot; for Shanghai from Marseilles, Messrs. Ch. Poirson and Bernheim; from Port Said, Mr. and Mrs. Haimowitch; from Saigon, Mr. Rigollot; for Yokohama from Marseilles, Messrs. R. Sulzer, Therenet, Dumolard, Deslongchamps, O. Yintorzo, F. Kawai, B. and J. Bay, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Wheelock; from Singapore, Messrs. J. Ford and Schiffmann.

Per *Hailoong*, from Coast Ports, Messrs. Wynen and Orange, and 112 Chinese.

Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Horsey, and Mr. A. Silva.

Per *Ceylon*, for Hongkong, from London, Messrs. G. Tomlin, E. S. Tuck, and J. M. Beattie, Mrs. Vallinger and infant, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Hutton Potts and children, Mr. and Mrs. Beattie, Staff-Surgeon H. P. Shuttleworth, Surgeon T. C. Meikle, Lieut. Z. Marsh, Acting Lieut. H. A. Thomas, and Rev. H. L. MacKenzie; from Singapore, Messrs. W. C. Contham, W. Dennis, and J. A. Delay; from London, for Shanghai, Mr. Payne; from Penang, Mr. Warnford; from London, for Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Abbott and child and 612 Chinese.

Per *Thames*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. and Mrs. McHaffie and child, Mr. and Mrs. Robertson and children, Messrs. Moffat, Warnock, J. Young, and C. M. Messer, Mrs. J. Bryan, Mrs. J. Wakeford and children, Mrs. Prince and children, Mrs. Best, and Miss Reeves; from Brindisi, Mr. Duff; from Bombay, Mr. Prestonjee Bezonjee; for Shanghai, from London, Rev. and Mrs. Barton, Messrs. H. W. Dawling, and H. Child; for Yokohama, from London, Mrs. and Miss Orr; from Malta, Mr. E. Geohagan.

Per *Rosetta*, from Yokohama for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Hausburg, Messrs. J. H. Wallace, Yam Pak Wai, Pow Gon Chew, and Tong Few Tai; for London, Mr. R. McDonald, Mrs. Mudie and two daughters, Miss G. C. Smith, Messrs. W. Tyrell, J. Barnicot, J. McJowett, and E. M. McJowett.

Per *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. Edward Bedloe, U.S. Consul at Canton, Mrs. H. L. Bridgman, Dr. E. Jennings, Conrad Vruland, Mrs. L. F. Watson, Mr. J. Tochetiman, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Low, Misses Low (2), Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Anderson, Miss Maudie-Hart, and Mr. E. Blumer.

Per *Chusan*, from Shanghai, for Brindisi, Mr. and Mrs. Panoif; for Bombay, Mrs. C. Robinson; for Penang, Mr. W. N. Dow; for Singapore, Mr. J. Somerville; for Hongkong

Messrs. Von Abererow, Baron Schroder, A. Hanssen, Dewsborg, and Toahunter.

Per *Arratoon Apcar*, from Calcutta, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Longley, Capt. Little and Mr. Petrocchino; from Singapore, Mr. Hannam.

Per *Haimun*, from Taiwanfoo, &c., Mr. J. Anderson.

Per *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, &c., Miss T. Miller, Mr. D. W. Craddock, Miss J. D. Eppes, Mr. A. W. and Mrs. Silver, Messrs. C. H. Waters, W. R. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. W. Harrison, Messrs. J. C. Miller, Duncan, and Clark, Admiral Sir Nowel and Lady Salmon, Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Wertheimer, Mrs. C. M. McCreary, Miss M. C. Clarke, Mrs. Broadhurst, Miss Trew, Messrs. E. G. Stavenhagen, A. Fullerton Henderson, F. Lapan, Dr. E. H. Horsey, Mr. W. D. Oelbermann, Mr. and Mrs. Barretto.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Haitan*, for Swatow, Mr. Haesloop; for Amoy, Master Matthews, Mr. Blom, Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison, and Miss Miller; for Foochow, Miss Bibb.

Per *Sanuki Maru*, for Singapore, Mr. Otto Anz; for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Horsey; for Port Said, Mr. K. Shimakawa; for Marseilles, Mr. Komorsky; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Knight, Messrs. A. G. Gilmour, Seabourne, Lancaster, J. Bishop, J. McMurray, A. Johnstone, and Mrs. and Miss Prout; for Antwerp, Messrs. Otto Plotz and C. Dowling.

Per *Sunghiang*, for Manila, Messrs. R. Corbett, E. A. K. Stürke, Ruston, and Nicholson.

Per *Empress of Japan*, for Shanghai, Mrs. Leonard Thomson and child, Mr. F. E. Coney; for Kobe, Messrs. P. A. Walker, J. Birch, Mr. and Mrs. Chan Yow Chee, son and child, Capt. Stanley Lowe; for Yokohama, Miss E. E. Eirall; for Vancouver, Miss Hilda Mast, Mr. Lacy R. Johnson; for London, Messrs. W. J. Canter, R. N. Jas. Cruickshank; for London from Yokohama, Mr. W. B. Keswick.

Per *Ernest Simons*, from Hongkong for Saigon, Mr. Grand; for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Joyce, Messrs. Wong Gin Tay and Raat; for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Moss and child, Messrs. A. E. Fisher and F. J. Raville; for Marseilles, Dr. J. Resenstern, Messrs. A. Doré, J. de Souza, and J. de Souza Leal; from Shanghai for Singapore, Messrs. Bogliano and C. E. Barron; for Batavia, Mr. G. de Beer; for Colombo, Mr. James Shaid; for Port Said, Mr. A. P. Maligin; for Marseilles, Messrs. Geo. Butler, G. W. Mackenzie, and A. Kaveline, Mrs. Trenfeldt, Dr. Komanoosky, Mr. Lempereur, Mrs. Tronoff, Miss Ivanoff, Mr. Le Ferec Prigent Jean Narie; from Kobe, for Colombo, Mr. Alexis Prosoir; for Marseilles, Mr. Lakapic, le Comte and Vicomte de Mercy, le Comte de la Begassiere, Messrs. J. P. Smulders and Vaschoor; from Yokohama for Saigon, Mr. Marquis, Mrs. and Miss Lanthomme, Messrs. Veaux and Lachapelle; for Singapore, Mr. W. Quan Choon; for Pondichery, Mr. Nivert; for Marseilles, Messrs. Saburo Yamada, Sichha Tatsuki, S. Totaro, and S. Yoshizo.

Per *Canton*, from Hongkong for Penang, Mr. R. O. N. Anderson; for London, Mr. R. E. Diferderfer; from Shanghai, Mr. E. Reynolds.

Per *Laos*, for Shanghai from Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Remusat and child, Mrs. Sanger, Messrs. A. Marangoni, Thos. Ingles, A. Middleton, J. A. Houston, and G. Dallas; for Kobe, Mr. Loong Gu Sang; for Yokohama, Messrs. A. Frugier, F. B. S. Jacob, and F. Ribeiro.

Per *Hanoi*, for Haiphong, Messrs. Hayet, Meyssonier, Mrs. d'Abbadie, Mr. and Mrs. Guerrier.

Per *Esmeralda*, for Manila, Messrs. F. D. McKay, Filipe S. Mess, Neil Macleod, and Pobakoff.

Per *Tokio Maru*, from Japan for Sydney, Messrs. Death and Brown.

Per *Optic*, for Shanghai—Mrs. Pixley, Mrs. Arthur, Messrs. Knorhenhaner, Zimmermann, A. Roders, and Block; for Kobe, Mr. Th. Bunge; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Brett, Miss Ross; for Pittsburg, Rev. and Mrs. J. S. Thompson and child.

Per *Thames*, for Shanghai from London, Rev. and Mrs. Barton, Messrs. H. W. Dowling and H. Child.

Per *Guthrie*, for Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Hill and children, Mrs. W. Fearon and 3 children.

Printed and Published by D. WARREN SMITH, at 29, Wyndham Street, Victoria, Hongkong.